Recognized Authority on Connellsville Coke Trade.

The Weekly Courier.

Circulates Wherever Coke is Manufactured or Used.

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Prices and Prospects.

SPOT FURNACE COKE SELLS UP TO $3.65 WITH LIMITED OFFERINGS AT $3.50 TON

Consumers Forehanded in Accumulating Coke Account Holiday.

FREIGHT SITUATION IS BAD

Tight Embargo on New England Trade by Regular Channels is Announced. Much Coke Being Held in Transit. Frick Cancels Its Coke Option.

Special to The Weekly Courier.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 23.—Since the sharp advance in prompt furnace coke reported a week ago still higher prices have been paid, the highest price involved in an authenticated sale being $3.65. This sale involved only about a dozen cars, but it is interesting as showing the extreme reached on the movement, or at least the extreme reached thus far, and if the demand had been for a larger tonnage it is possible a still higher price would have to be paid.

There are limited offerings of spot furnace coke at $3.50, which seems to establish the top of the quotable market for today, but a change of 50 cents over night is a common occurrence these days. There are some bids at $3.00, but these do not bring out any coke.

The demand for spot furnace coke is relatively limited, as consumers have endeavored to be forehanded in accumulating coke either en route or at destination, demurrage having to be paid in the latter case. Shippers of coke are as much afraid of the Christmas holidays as are consumers and the majority of shippers have been making a strenuous effort to load up their customers and thereby avoid any complaint. In a few instances shippers claim they have already shipped consumers all the coke to which they are entitled on present contracts, expiring December 31.

The freight situation has grown worse in the past week. There is a tight embargo on all coke destined for New England by the regular routes, and shippers have been trying to get around this by shipping on devious routes, irrespective of how much higher the freight might be. In some instances they have struck the obstacle of short roads having no published rate on coke.

While shipments from ovens have been particularly heavy in the past fortnight the receipts at furnaces have not been equal by any means, as coke is being held up in transit at various points, in some cases close to the ovens. Instances are cited of coke standing on track for a week without being weighed, although the scales were not ten miles away.

Foundry coke of high grade for guaranteed spot shipment has brought $4.00 a ton for a week past, although the sales at this figure have been rather light. There have been other sales at $3.50 and $3.75, according to grade and time of shipment.

The sharp advance in prompt coke has led many operators to expect higher prices on contracts than have recently been quoted, while the same influence has discouraged buyers from coming into the market just at the moment. The great bulk of the furnace coke for the fore part of the new year has already been bought, but there is a little tonnage yet to be covered. The buyers are disposed to shorten the delivery period they would consider, and in some cases they would probably prefer to buy for only January and February, or perhaps for the first quarter. Sellers, on the other hand, would prefer to close for the longer period as they recognize that coke will grow more plentiful next year as additional by-product ovens are completed. The market stands quotable as follows:

Prompt furnace	$3.25@$3.50
Contract furnace, first half	$2.25@$2.50
Contract furnace, year 1916	$2.25@$2.35
Prompt foundry	$3.50@$4.00
Contract foundry	$3.00@$3.50

Recent rumors that the H. C. Frick Coke Company has bought coke are now authoritatively denied. What the company did do, however, was to take an option on first half coke at $2.50, the option having since been allowed to lapse.

Bessemer and foundry grades of pig iron are up 50 cents this week, basic being unchanged. The market is made on very light sales, and when advances occur in such circumstances the trade accepts them as an indication that pig iron is very scarce. Predictions are made in some quarters that pig iron will reach $25 before long, but if pig iron should reach $25 it could almost as easily reach $30. The prospects certainly are that sellers of coke on sliding scale contracts will realize the maximum prices written in the contracts.

The local pig iron market is now quotable as follows:

Bessemer	$19.50@$20.00
Basic	$18.00
No. 2 foundry	$18.50@$19.00
Gray forge	$18.00@$18.50
Malleable	$18.00@$18.50

These prices are f. o. b. Valley furnaces, prices delivered Pittsburg being higher by the 95-cent freight.

Republic Not in Merger.

John A. Topping, chairman of the Republic Iron & Steel Company, has officially announced that merger rumors concerning his company and other steel companies are without foundation whatever.

COKE TRADE SUMMARY.

The Connellsville coke trade is suffering from the embargo on Eastern business and the short labor supply. Perhaps it would be more accurate to state that consumers of spot coke are suffering from these conditions, since owing to them prices have advanced as high as $3.65 for furnace and $4 for foundry.

The record output of 451,060 tons dropped back 10,000 tons last week, but production held up to 446,000 tons in spite of the fact that work has not been so driving since it is not included in the Christmas pay check. The list of active ovens has been increased by 235 chiefly by the leading furnace interest though the merchant operators report a net increase of 200. The changes are of small consequence and none of them involve the starting of idle plants or the stopping of active ones. The regions now have 84½% of their ovens in operation the percentage being the same at the merchant and the furnace plants.

FINISHED STEEL MARKET TAKES ON HOLIDAY QUIET

Railroad Embargo on Iron, Steel, Coal and Coke from the Pittsburg and Connellsville Regions.

Special to The Weekly Courier.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The American Metal Market and Daily Iron & Steel Report will review the steel and iron trade tomorrow as follows:

The finished steel market has turned very quiet this week but the quietness is evidently merely a holiday effect, as fundamentally the market seems stronger than ever, deliveries harder to get and prices showing a continued advancing tendency.

The stoppage of iron, steel, coal and coke shipments eastward from Pittsburg has become almost complete. The Pennsylvania railroad has embargoed all shipments intended for lighterage at Jersey City or Waverly, and all coke shipments for New England also all coal for shipment east from Pittsburg or Connellsville except for line consumers who can prove their individual needs, and fuel for the New Haven road. The Baltimore & Ohio restrictions are almost as great.

Instead of the iron and steel embargo curtailing production in the central west or causing a surfeit in shipments to domestic consumers, the domestic shipments have simply been correspondingly increased and the material is gladly taken by consignees. We have already estimated that less than 25% of the finished steel produced in October was shipped for export, either direct or indirect through the medium of manufacturers, shells, cars, machinery, etc. Undoubtedly the domestic proportion of shipments is now considerably more than 75%.

Wire products advanced $2 a ton on Tuesday, making nails $2.10 per keg. The last six advances have been at average intervals of 24 days. Export nails are bringing an average of 60 cents a keg above the advanced domestic price and a famine in nails is predicted. Black sheets are up to $2 a ton to 2.60c. Bars plates and shapes, now nominally 1.80c, will likely advance after January 1st, whereupon third quarter contracts will probably be accepted in a limited way.

Pig iron prices continue to advance by 50-cent increments, in the face of light buying, and a definite shortage appears to be expected.

Open-hearth billets are established at $35, Pittsburg, by the sale of several thousand tons at this figure, in an ordinary market way.

STILL SHORT OF COKE

New England Foundries Face a Stringent Need.

Special advices received by the Cleveland Daily Iron Trade indicate that a number of the New England foundries, especially those in Connecticut and Massachusetts, continue to face a stringent need in spot coke and are paying higher prices to get the fuel to fill their necessities.

A number of cars of Connellsville coke have been sold the past few days to these buyers at $4, ovens, or about $7.50, delivered. Only certain brands are obtainable for the deliveries desired. The shortage of foundry coke for many New England plants and for some in this district is due both to the freight congestion and to the fact that some makers who have contracts with these consumers have been unable to maintain their deliveries. There has been considerable borrowing among the different shops to tide those in need over the emergency.

Chile is a buyer of foundry coke at present, and has been paying around $10.25 per ton as the fuel must be packed in bags. An inquiry for 5,000 tons for Chile is pending.

A Huge Coal Contract.

Baltimore is the source of the information that the Elkhorn Coal Corporation of West Virginia has closed a contract involving the delivery of 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 tons of coal to the United States Steel Corporation. The contract is said to cover a period of three years, the deliveries to be made at Gary, Ind., and other plants of the Steel Corporation.

Review of the Connellsville Coke Trade.

Statistical Summary.

PRODUCTION.	WEEK ENDING DEC. 18, 1915.				WEEK ENDING DEC. 11, 1915.			
DISTRICT.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.
Connellsville	21,465	17,579	3,886	232,230	21,465	17,088	4,379	234,224
Lower Connellsville	17,528	15,260	2,259	214,155	17,528	15,027	2,501	217,672
Totals	38,993	32,848	6,145	446,385	38,993	32,115	6,880	451,896
FURNACE OVENS.								
Connellsville	17,361	14,427	2,934	191,508	17,361	13,938	3,423	191,898
Lower Connellsville	5,552	4,914	638	65,412	5,552	4,847	705	66,048
Totals	22,913	19,341	3,572	256,920	22,913	18,785	4,128	257,946
MERCHANT OVENS.								
Connellsville	4,104	3,152	952	40,731	4,104	3,148	956	42,326
Lower Connellsville	11,976	10,355	1,621	148,734	11,976	10,180	1,796	151,624
Totals	16,080	13,507	2,573	189,465	16,080	13,328	2,752	193,950

SHIPMENTS.	WEEK ENDING DEC. 18, 1915.	WEEK ENDING DEC. 11, 1915.
To Pittsburg	3,858 Cars.	4,008 Cars.
To Points West of Pittsburg	6,449 Cars.	6,517 Cars.
To Points East of the Region	1,514 Cars.	1,548 Cars.
Totals	11,821 Cars.	12,073 Cars.

COAL LAND VALUES IN GREENE COUNTY MAY FEEL BENEFIT

Of the Stimulating Effects Induced by Prospective Mergers.

SALE PRICES FORM A REAL BASIS

Of Value Which Cannot be Ignored Even Though Financial Conditions Have a Depressing Effect; Large Holdings Acquired by Operators.

It has been confidently and insistently asserted in certain quarters that the complications arising from the financial embarrassment of J. V. Thompson will so depreciate the value of Greene county coal lands that those persons who are holding them for purposes of investment will sustain serious losses. It is also held that persons and interests inimical to J. V. Thompson are taking advantage of the situation to further depress the value of coal lands, and to throw obstacles in the way of an adjustment of Thompson's affairs, for the ulterior purpose of compelling the disposal of his holdings at a great sacrifice.

Whatever the motive which prompts the circulation of many unfounded rumors, effecting or intended to effect the stability of coal land values in Greene county, there remain certain indisputable facts which rumor, persistent or well founded, cannot successfully controvert. While no recent sales of any magnitude have been made, the purchase within a few years past of large acreages of Greene county coal land by coal and coke operators or interests affiliated with them, form a tangible basis of value which may not be ignored in a speculative discussion, though it must be remembered that the real value of anything is what the purchasing public is willing to pay for it and not what the buyers imagine it is worth. Values are evanescent. Without any change in their physical conditions coal lands may change considerably in value. Development does not always advance values; it sometimes has a contrary effect. Comparatively little Greene county coal has thus far been developed, but that a financial condition has developed with regard to its ownership which is calculated to depress Greene county coal land values is undeniable.

Large holdings of Greene county coal have recently been bought at prices ranging from $625 to $825 per acre and these are insisted upon as present values. It is proper for their holders, especially if they are industrial concerns which bought for development and not for speculation, to consider that they have full value for their investment and charge nothing off against it for depreciation, but the prospective buyers who seek the 60,000 acres now held by Thompson and his associates will undoubtedly try to buy them as cheaply as they can.

On the other hand, we are confronted with a remarkable revival in the steel and iron trade, accompanied by activity in the line of big mergers, which would seem to call for large coal land requirements. This condition should have a stimulating effect upon demand and prices. The recent merger of the Cambria, Lackawanna and Youngstown steel companies carries with it the acquisition of large bodies of Greene county coal, and will hardly have more than the encouraging effect of a good example, but its general influence will be uplifting, and the general trade conditions are bullish rather than bearish.

The ownership of Greene county coal lands has become vested in what may be termed three groups of interests, in order of importance, as determined by acreage held, they are as follows: Coal, coke and allied interests, 140,000 acres; private investors and original farm owners, 100,000 acres; J. V. Thompson and associates, 60,000 acres.

The Waynesburg Republican has made a compilation of the holdings of the first of the interests named, giving teh individual holdings, location and in some instances the prices at which the acreages were acquired. The data follows:

Acres.	Operator and Location
2,500.	H. C. Frick Coke Company, subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, on Little Whiteley creek in Monongahela township.
11,000.	St. Paul Coal Company, presumed to be the personal holdings of H. C. Frick, in Perry township.
2,800.	Crucible Coal Company, subsidiary of the Crucible Steel Company, in Cumberland township. Purchase price $800 per acre.
5,500.	Buckeye Coal Company, subsidiary of the Youngstown Sheet & Tube Company, in Cumberland township. Part purchased at $625 and remainder at $825 per acre.
1,400.	Poland Coal Company in Monongahela township. Purchase price $900 per acre.
1,100.	W. Harry Brown, in Monongahela township. $1,000,000 was paid on this tract, an average of $711 per acre.
762.	W. H. Donner, president of the Cambria Steel Company, in Monongahela township. Price stated to have been $800 per acre.
2,500.	Hamilton Coke Company, subsidiary of the Youngstown Sheet & Tube Company. Price $800 per acre.
500.	Henderson Coal Company of Mellinsport, in Monongahela township.
2,500.	Prospect Coal Company in Cumberland and Jefferson townships.
1,800.	Wallace H. Rowe, president of the Pittsburg Steel Company, in Cumberland township.
12,000.	Emerald Coal Company, in Franklin, Morgan and Washington townships.
16,000.	James G. Patterson of Pittsburg, in Franklin, Center, Morgan and Washington townships.
2,400.	E. H. Jennings of Pittsburg, in Washington township.
2,800.	Henry G. Dalton, Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company, Cleveland O., in Morgan and Jefferson townships.
1,000.	Western Coke Company of Pittsburg, in Morgan and Jefferson townships.
1,500.	Bessemer Coal & Coke Company, in Morgan and Washington townships.
14,000.	Pittsburg-Westmoreland Coal Company, in Washington township, Greene county, and Amwell township, Washington county.
1,400.	Johnetta Coal Company, in Morgan township.
1,500.	Pittsburg Coal Company in Jefferson township.
2,600.	Midland Improvement Company, subsidiary of the Crucible Steel Company, in Cumberland township. Purchase price $800 per acre.

Of the tracts contained in the foregoing only three have thus far been developed. The Crucible Coal Company has erected a complete and modernly equipped mining plant on its tract and is shipping the output by river to the Crucible Steel Company's by-product plant at Midland, Pa.

The Poland Coal Company, under the presidency of Julian Kennedy, the well known furnace engineer and expert, is operating a coking plant embodying the latest ideas in coke plant construction.

W. Harry Brown, owner and operator of the Alicia coke plant at Alicia, Fayette county, has made an initial development of his tract in Greene county by the construction of a mining plant of large ultimate capacity.

The holdings of J. V. Thompson and associates lie in Richhill, Morris, Center, Franklin, Washington, Wayne, Whiteley, Jackson, Gilmore, Springhill and Aleppo townships, and aggregate approximately 60,000 acres. It is estimated that 100,000 acres still remain in the ownership of farmers of Greene county or private investors located in the county or elsewhere.

Million Dollar Steel Order.

The contract has been awarded the Carnegie Steel Company for $1,000,000 worth of steel for the construction of two new battleships for the United States navy.

Every Mine to Capacity.

Every mine of the Pennsylvania Coal & Coke Company in Cambria and adjoining counties is running to full capacity.

PROPOSED RAISE IN RATES ON COAL WILL BE OPPOSED

Both West Virginia and Pittsburg Operators Prepare to Fight.

JUSTIFICATION FOR ADVANCE

Railroads Went to Share in Prosperity; Coal Cars Slow in Movement and Many Required; Coke Made Undesirable and Profitable Freight.

The proposed increase of coal freight rates out of the Pittsburg district and the coal fields of West Virginia to various distributing points, of 15 cents per ton, is vigorously protested by the coal operators, especially those in West Virginia.

The operators of both the West Virginia and Pittsburg districts will make a vigorous fight before the Interstate Commerce Commission on the proposal to increase the rates. The Public Service Commission of West Virginia is joining in the protest. Petitions have been filed for a hearing in Washington and the suspension of the proposed increase until a decision has been made.

It is easy to understand why the coal operators should object to an increase in the freight rates on coal. They have before them the spectacle of the long struggle the railroads had to obtain an increase of 5% in the rates on commodities in general. They have also had some previous experience in pressing demands for reduced coal freight rates when conditions seemed to justify such demands.

Nevertheless it looks as if there was some justification in the proposed advance in the freight rate. West Virginia coal is now selling at from $1.75 to $2.25 per ton or better, and conditions point to a runaway market. The railroads feel that they have an equity in this condition. They are merely asking a small share of a very profitable situation.

Similar conditions prevail in the Pittsburg district, including the Connellsville coke region, where for some time coke operators have been shipping coal because the price of coal rendered it a much more profitable proposition than coke. This condition has recently changed because of the fact that coke prices have gone up commensurate with the general situation. There would still be more profit in coal if the operators could get cars enough to supply the demand but they cannot. While it is impossible to get coal cars in sufficient supply the railroads have thus far been able to keep up the demand for coke cars, which has made it more profitable to make and ship coke than to try to ship coal. Hence the decline of the coal trade in the Connellsville coke region.

The fact that the coke cars are in supply for coke business is due largely to the fact that they are hauled over comparatively short distances and their movement is prompt. A smaller number of coke cars serves a larger number of coal plants. Coal cars are shipped over a greater stretch of territory and are slower in their movement. They are lower going, slower unloading and slower getting back again than are coke cars, which are sent from the Connellsville region in train loads to Pittsburg and Valley points and are back into the region again in 24 to 36 hours after shipment out.

It requires a relatively small number of cars to serve a trade so prompt in its movement, and the profitable character of the coke business has stimulated the railroads to the point of serving transportation demands of the coke trade as they never try to serve those of the coal interests. Hence it is that the Connellsville coke operators have found it more interesting to ship coke at $2.50 or $3.00 per ton than coal at $1.75 or $2.50 per ton. There is some assurance of getting cars for coke, but not so much for coal.

Production and Output.

THE FINE CHRISTMAS BUSINESS IN COKE RUNS AFOUL OF THE RAILROAD BLOCKADE

COKE FREIGHT RATES.

The revised rates on coke per ton of 2,000 pounds from the Connellsville region to points both east and west are as follows:

Baltimore	$1.80
Buffalo	1.85
Canton	1.10
Chicago	2.50
Cleveland	1.60
Columbus	1.65
Detroit	2.10
East St. Louis	2.80
Erie	1.05
Harrisburg	1.70
Joliet	2.50
Louisville	2.50
Milwaukee	2.85
New York	2.85
Philadelphia	2.05
Pittsburg	.75
Port Henry, N. Y.	2.80
Pottstown	1.95
Reading	1.85
Richmond, Va.	2.04
South Bethlehem	2.00
Swedeland, Pa.	2.00
Toledo	1.85
Wheeling	1.20
Youngstown and Valleys	1.20

And for the First Time in Eight Years Noticeably Suffers From

A SHORTAGE IN COKE CARS

The Shortage is Scant But Its Very Presence is Somewhat Discouraging Especially When Connected With Prevailing Short Labor Supply.

The fine Christmas business of the Connellsville coke operators, somewhat marred by a shortage of labor and the unwillingness of that labor to be always employed, has been further and sadly unmade by bad transportation conditions. The glut of export traffic going to New York and the Atlantic Coast has made such a congestion that an embargo has been placed by the railroads on much of the eastern business. This embargo has thus far only included coke to New York and New England points, but it has been accompanied by the first shortage in coke cars since 1907. This lack of cars is not serious thus far. The Pennsylvania railroad has 37,000 cars in the Connellsville coke trade, and has been short something over 100 cars daily, or three-tenths of one per centum.

These conspiring conditions pulled the output of the Connellsville regions down 10,000 tons last week as compared with the previous week, but there was little or no stock left at the plants. The big steel interest put down some stock during the first of the week, but took some up towards the close of the week. Upon the whole there was a small surplus between production and shipments, but there is no merchant coke for prompt shipment at the yards or on tracks unconsigned at merchant plants.

Six days is the working rule of the district, and the plants are all running that way, though they are not always getting full output. Last week the furnace interest reported in 338 ovens at various plants and the merchant operators 197 ovens, making 84½% of the ovens of the region in operation, the percentage of the furnace and merchant operators remaining the same, yet there was an actual falling off in production compared with the previous week of 5,000 tons. The workmen worked industriously during that week because it was included in their Christmas pay, while the labor of last week will not be paid until after Christmas.

Production for the week ending Saturday, December 18th, was 446,385 tons of which the merchant operators made 189,465 tons and the furnace interest 256,920 tons. By districts the Connellsville region produced 232,230 tons and the Lower Connellsville region 214,146 tons. Compared with the previous week this shows a falling off of 5,511 tons.

Shipments for the week ending Saturday, December 18th, aggregated 11,821 cars carrying 441,211 tons consigned as follows:

Destination	Cars.	Tons.
Pittsburg district	3,858	143,686
Western points	6,449	245,678
Eastern points	1,514	54,897

Compared with the previous week this shows a falling off of 1,964 tons. The recession was in the Pittsburg district, 5,677 tons, and the Western field, 4,425 tons. Eastern shipments held their own at approximately 52,000 tons. Some of this coke is going to the Bethlehem Steel Company. It is announced that this company will have its new plant of Koppers by-product ovens ready for operation during the first quarter of 1916. These ovens will have a capacity of 150,000 tons a month, while the requirements against them will be but 100,000, leaving a matter of 50,000 tons for the market. The effect of this condition will be watched with interest in the Connellsville coke region. Merchant operators are inclined to make light of it. They think they will loose their Bethlehem business, but they do not expect to lose anything else.

The changes in the ovens noted above have been made during a period extending over a couple of weeks or more and are at no plant of great moment. The tables of the second and third pages contain the lists corrected up to date.

THE UPPER CONNELLSVILLE AND GREENSBURG REGIONS

Fall Under the Evil Influence of the Railroad Embargo on Eastern Fuel Business.

The Upper Connellsville and Greensburg Connellsville regions are under the evil influence of the existing transportation conditions. The embargo on Eastern coal and coke shipments is hitting them pretty hard, though their Western business shows some falling off likewise, the total slump being something like 5,000 tons from the previous week and 10,000 tons from the November record. The shipments in tons from these districts during the week ending Saturday, December 18th, were as follows:

District	East	West	Total
Upper Conn	6,226	10,137	16,363
Greensburg	9,539	8,859	18,398
Totals	15,765	18,996	34,761

The weekly output of the Upper Connellsville and Greensburg Connellsville regions for 1915 is shown in the annexed tabulation:

Week	East	West	Total
Jan. 2	17,546	13,872	31,418
Jan. 9	17,877	13,251	31,128
Jan. 16	14,215	16,509	30,724
Jan. 23	13,833	18,849	32,682
Jan. 30	13,788	18,701	32,492
Feb. 6	15,191	17,889	33,080
Feb. 13	16,435	18,000	34,435
Feb. 20	15,447	20,854	36,301
Feb. 27	15,166	21,909	37,075
Mar. 6	15,938	20,057	35,995
Mar. 13	16,214	20,917	37,131
Mar. 20	16,109	21,067	37,176
Mar. 27	15,876	19,604	35,480
Apr. 3	15,280	21,922	37,202
Apr. 10	14,114	21,126	35,240
Apr. 17	13,047	22,402	35,449
Apr. 24	13,521	21,457	34,978
May 1	12,166	22,346	34,512
May 8	15,342	21,387	36,729
May 15	14,839	21,777	36,616
May 22	14,918	22,166	37,084
May 29	14,815	20,820	35,635
June 5	11,092	22,697	33,789
June 12	14,178	23,313	37,491
June 19	15,444	21,187	36,631
June 26	15,746	23,614	39,360
July 3	16,372	24,287	40,659
July 10	17,308	21,778	39,086
July 17	17,998	24,159	42,087
July 24	18,880	24,685	43,565
July 31	18,532	26,790	45,322
Aug. 7	17,008	25,656	42,664
Aug. 14	18,168	27,558	45,726
Aug. 21	16,371	25,732	42,103
Aug. 28	17,002	25,815	42,817
Sep. 4	16,399	26,706	43,105
Sep. 11	16,086	28,292	44,378
Sep. 18	15,825	27,178	42,003
Sep. 25	15,203	27,510	42,713
Oct. 2	17,383	24,332	41,715
Oct. 9	15,884	24,171	40,055
Oct. 16	15,283	25,117	40,400
Oct. 23	18,788	24,117	42,905
Oct. 30	18,160	23,540	41,700
Nov. 6	19,568	25,454	45,022
Nov. 13	21,068	21,747	42,815
Nov. 20	19,912	23,754	43,666
Nov. 27	20,948	19,649	40,597
Dec. 4	17,278	27,571	44,849
Dec. 11	20,170	20,788	40,907
Dec. 18	15,765	18,996	34,761

Following are the aggregate average weekly shipments from these districts by quarters for 1914 for purposes of comparison.

Quarter.	East.	West	Total.
First	16,770	22,037	38,807
Second	17,490	21,896	39,386
Third	17,615	19,562	37,177
Fourth	15,516	14,718	30,234

W. J. RAINEY TREAT.

Coke Company Will Distribute Much Candy on Christmas.

All arrangements have been completed by the W. J. Rainey interests for the annual Christmas treat at the various stores in Fayette and Westmoreland counties. There are 10 stores in the two counties, and several thousand pounds of candy have been purchased for distribution.

On Christmas eve old Santa Claus will appear at each store and will present to each child a box of candy and other Christmas goodies. This is a great event among the children of the W. J. Rainey employes, and many hearts are gladdened by the visit of Santa Claus.

Southern Coke Unchanged.

Foundry coke from the New River, Pocahontas and Wise county fields is unchanged in price despite acute shortage in production and deliveries. It is given at from $3 to $4.25, ovens.

New Mill at Donora.

The American Steel & Wire Co. will build a new rod mill at Donora.

STRIKES COAL.

Owen Murphy, Contractor, Now Operator, Developing Washington Tract.

Owen Murphy, the contractor, and former resident of Connellsville, but now a coal operator with residence at Latrobe, has struck coal at a depth of 410 feet in a shaft he is sinking on a tract at Coon Island, Washington county. The seam is six feet in thickness and of good quality.

Operator Murphy owns 800 acres of coal in this field and has completed plans to operate on a large scale. The shaft now being sunk will be lined with concrete and a complete tipple and mine equipment installed. It is expected that eventually 500 or 600 men will be given employment at this plant.

River Coal Shipments.

Shipments of coal by river and rail from the mines along the Monongahela are being made at such rate as indicates that more coal is being sent out than ever before during a corresponding period.

NEITHER MARKET NOR MANUFACTURE OF BY-PRODUCTS

Has Been Developed to a Degree Insuring Freedom From

DANGERS OF OVER PRODUCTION

Tendency More Toward a Multiplication of Oven Types Than to a Diversity of Products and Finding Markets for them, Change Needed

In a well informed discussion of the state and trend of the developments in by-product coke making The Black Diamond points out very clearly that the industry is fast running into complexities in America. In the judgment of this authority manufacturers in this country are failing to develop markets for the by-products a policy, which if it is not changed will presently bring them face to face with the dangers involved by over production.

"We are" observes our contemporary "getting away from the belief that coal in its natural state is a merchantable product like potatoes and apples and are coming to look upon it as nothing more than a raw material which to be made valuable must be made over.

"So long as we clung to the old idea that coal was a finished article of commerce, we were interested only in coal lands, coal mines, and the means of transporting and distributing the product. The minute we begin to realize that it is a raw material requiring a manufacturing process we begin to get interested primarily in coke ovens because coking in some form is the first step toward the completely manufactured product.

"Other countries than America came to this conclusion about coal long before we did. The history of the development is rather intricate but Belgium seems to have lead in the production of by-product ovens with its Solvay process. It was followed by Germany with the Koppers and other processes. Now America is using all of the foreign patents and is developing some of her own. We are beginning as a matter of fact to get the same multiplication of the types of oven used that we formerly got in the matter of additions to mine equipment. Candidly we are beginning to face the same danger of overdoing the coke business that we fell into when we overdid coal production.

"By the same token to manufacture by-products in the hope that somebody will learn how to use them and hence come to buy them may be an example of American enterprise but it is hardly intelligent.

"If we admit which we must that coal is no longer a natural product and that it becomes valuable only when it is turned into a manufactured product we instantly see the necessity to change radically our whole attitude towards its manufacturing process.

"It is suggested on one hand that we must diversify the manufacturing program. That is we can no longer assume that the same coke which is valuable for metallurgical purposes is equally valuable as a household fuel. We must if the records of retailers are dependable change the manufacturing process so that we get enough coke for metallurgy and then produce a domestic fuel which will bring more than one repeat order in twenty-five sales and more than one permanent customer out of fifty who have used the fuel. That is we must emancipate the people from a smoking coal without asking them to become expert firemen.

"In the by-product department, we must not only diversify our manufacturing program to produce many things but we must also carry on a merchandising campaign that is going to find a market for those things. That market is here and abroad. It is an essential part of the true function of the coal trade both to find the market and to manufacture products which will satisfy it.

"The coking of coal is not as we assume now an end in itself. It is merely a means to an understood end. The act of coking is merely getting ready to do something more important. By it we divide the fuel mixture into two parts—coke and gas. Each one of these as a crude product. The coke is supposed to support the fluxing process of the metallurgical industry. The gas is supposed to supply the light and the relief and fuel for cooking required by modern cities.

At that point however we gain a subdivision of both subjects. The gas is too valuable for all of it to be burned for illuminating purposes or for cooking. Therefore we divide the gas taking out first the tar which is capable of being split up into about 150 by products and second some other ingredients.

When we produce all the gas that modern cities require and when we take all of these by-products from the gas we are likely to over-produce those by-products because we have not made a market for them.

Also when we produce the requisite volume of gas we over-produce by far the amount of coke that is needed for metallurgical purposes. We thus have left a great quantity of coke for which a market must be found.

The difficulty at the minute is that we have not gone beyond the stage of manufacturing. That is there has been no sensible effort in America to develop the market for by products we have not developed even the process for their manufacture. In the distribution of the coke, we are going on the dangerous assumption that instead of the fuel being made to fit the household conditions the householder should be educated to use a fuel primarily designed for metallurgical purposes. The people can be educated of course, to use coke in time but a product which depends for its popularity upon skillful firing by the whole body of consumers is in a dangerous position. It would be infinitely easier and less expensive to change the manufacturing process.

BIG COAL DEAL

Charleroi Mine is Purchased by Cleveland Firm for $1,400,000

One of the largest coal land deals consummated in Western Pennsylvania in many years was closed when the Youghiogheny & Ohio Coal Company of Cleveland purchased from the *Carnegie Coal Company* what is known as its Charleroi plant. The purchase price was $1,400,000.

The property which is situated along the Monongahela river and consists *of 1,100 acres of rich coal land* will be transferred to the purchasers immediately.

The Charleroi property formerly was owned by the Pittsburg Plate Glass Company and was acquired by the Carnegie Coal Company several years ago. The Youghiogheny company is one of the largest coal companies of Western Pennsylvania with extensive *holdings in Washington Greene and* Westmoreland counties. It also operates in Ohio.

The purchase of the Charleroi plant the company says will add greatly to *its coal output in Western Pennsyl*vania. J G Patterson is vice president of the Youghiogheny & Ohio Coal Company and its Pittsburg representative.

GETS ANOTHER PLANT

Adelaide is Added to the Supervision *of R C Beerbower*

R C Beerbower superintendent of the H C Frick Coke Company plants at Davidson and Colonial has been placed in charge of the Adelaide plant as well. He recently purchased a Ford runabout and makes his rounds to the three plants with its aid.

W J Barnhart superintendent of the Adelaide plant has been attached to the Frick company's engineering corps.

Mr Beerbower now has 6?? active ovens under his charge in all three plants the second largest number under any superintendent in the Connellsville region. According to The Weekly Courier's reports Adelaide has 290 Davidson 3?? and Coalbrook 70 ovens making a total of ... Standard the largest plant of the Frick company has 90? ovens of which 700 are in blast.

COAL SALES IN GREENE

Uniontown Men Get 107 Acres at Sheriff's Sale

Harry L Hagan and Charles Hagan have sold to Hagan Tyler two tracts of the Pittsburg vein of coal in Gilmore township Greene county containing 113 ½ acres consideration $25,712.14.

One hundred and ninety seven acres of coal in Center and Richhill townships have been sold at sheriff's sale as the property of J J Hilton to R F Hopwood Stewart Henderson and F R Adams of Uniontown. The consideration was $2,070 the amount of the mortgage.

Advertise in The Weekly Courier

LIST OF COKE OVENS IN

The Connellsville District

With Their Owners, Address and Ovens in Blast Corrected to Saturday, Dec. 18, 1915.

Total Ovens	In Blast	Name of Works	Name of Operators	P O Address
200	200	Acme	W J Rainey	New York N Y
80		Acme	Penn Coke Co	Uniontown
290	240	Adelaide	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
356		Alverton	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
307	300	Baggaley	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
182	182	Beatty	Mt Pleasant Coke Co	Greensburg
300	200	Bitner	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
120	60	Boyer	Mt Pleasant Coke Co	Greensburg
240	240	Brinkerton	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
350	120	Buckeye	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
30	30	Brush Run	Brush Run Coke Company	Mt Pleasant
200	200	Calumet	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
32		Carolyn	Peerless-Connellsville Coke Co	Pittsburg
301	301	Central	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
150	150	Clare	Clare Coke Co	Greensburg
70	70	Coalbrook	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
400	400	Collier	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
400	400	Continental 1	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
326	326	Continental 2	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
300	300	Continental 3	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
120		Crossland	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
388	308	Davidson	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
40		Dexter	Connellsville Coke Co	Connellsville
230	100	Dorothy	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
40	30	Ellen No 1	Whyel Coke Co	Uniontown
50	18	Ellen No 2	Whyel Coke Co	Uniontown
100	100	Elizabeth	Unity-Connellsville Coke Co	Greensburg
200	200	Elm Grove	W J Rainey	New York N Y
126	100	Fort Hill	W J Rainey	New York N Y
101	101	Gilmore	Gilmore Coke Co	Uniontown
124	116	Grace	W J Rainey	New York N Y
272	272	Hecla No 1	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
340	300	Hecla No 2	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
300	300	Hecla No 3	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
8	8	Helen	Samuel J Lohr	Youngwood
355	355	Hostetter	Hostetter Connellsville Coke Co	Pittsburg
145	145	Humphrey	Brennemer Coke Co	Pittsburg
250	250	Juniata	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
306	306	Kyle	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
490	450	Leisenring 1	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
496	450	Leisenring 2	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
502	450	Leisenring 3	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
304	304	Leith	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
327	324	Lemont No 1	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
350	320	Lemont No 2	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
20		Little Sunshine	King Coke Co	Uniontown
82	32	Love	C'ville-Mutual Coal & Coke Co	Scottdale
40	40	Magee	Magee Coke Co	Uniontown
84		Mahoning	Mahoning Coal & Coke Co	Dunbar
500	460	Mammoth	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
400	400	Marguerite	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
360	260	Mt Braddock	W J Rainey	New York N Y
310	310	Mt Pleasant	Mt Pleasant Coke Co	Greensburg
105		Mutual	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
32	32	Myers	Brownfield-C'ville Coke Co	Uniontown
320	100	Nellie	Brown & Cochran	Dawson
252	252	Oliphant	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
328	320	Oliver No 1	Oliver & Snyder Steel Co	Pittsburg
480	320	Oliver No 2	Oliver & Snyder Steel Co	Pittsburg
300	275	Oliver No 3	Oliver & Snyder Steel Co	Pittsburg
60	32	Palmer	Newcomer Coke Co	Uniontown
180	180	Paul	W J Rainey	New York N Y
38		Percy	Johnson Fuel Co	Uniontown
400	400	Phillips	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
95	60	Rainey	W J Rainey	New York N Y
448	410	Redstone	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
550	518	Revere	W J Rainey	New York N Y
120	120	Rist	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
36		Sapper	Shannon Coal & Coke Co	Uniontown
110	110	Semet-Solvay	Dunbar Furnace Co	Dunbar
42		Shannon	Shannon Coal & Coke Co	Uniontown
30	30	Shirley	South Fayette Coal & Coke Co	Uniontown
448	290	Shoaf	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
560	400	Southwest 1	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
150		Southwest 2	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
204		Southwest 3	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
908	720	Standard	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
80	80	Stewart	Stewart Iron Co	Uniontown
201		Summit-Eagle	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
40	16	Thomas	Whyel Coke Co	Uniontown
434	420	Trotter	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
350	350	United	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
200		Valley	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
80	80	Veteran	Mt. Pleasant Coke Co	Greensburg
33	30	West Penn	West Penn Coke Co	Pittsburg
90	90	White	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
352	352	Whitney	Hostetter Connellsville Coke Co	Pittsburg
300	300	Wynn	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
500	480	Yorkrun	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
245	245	Youngstown	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg

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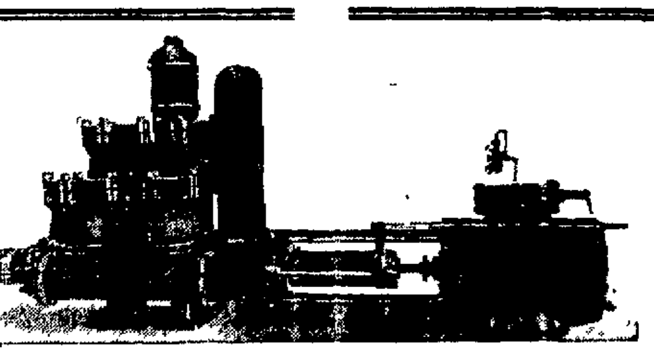

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A GREAT FOREIGN TRADE MOVEMENT IN STEEL MERGER

Is the Surmise Based on the Affiliations of Parties Interested.

LARGE SHIPPING CONNECTIONS

Indicate Far-Reaching Plans For the Extension of American Iron and Steel Trade in the Markets of the World Generally; Plans Shaping.

Far-reaching plans having to do with the extension of American iron and steel trade in foreign lands are, in the opinion of a writer in the Cleveland Daily Iron Trade, believed to lie at the basis of the proposed merger of the Youngstown Sheet & Tube Company, the Lackawanna Steel Company and the Cambria Steel Company, the Newport News Ship Building Company, and either the Inland or Iroquois Steel Company.

It is pointed out that the National City bank interests of New York City, who recently financed the Midvale Steel & Ordnance Company, are interested in the proposed steel consolidation. They also are the organizers of the American International Corporation, which is projected avowedly to seek and hold foreign trade for American interests. And, too, the purchase by these interests of the seven Southern Pacific steamships with the W. R. Grace & Company trade and shipping connections in Central and South America, as has been announced, is deemed especially significant.

Again, it has been shown by usually shrewd observers that such a proposed steel merger, with important foreign trade and shipping connections would be directly in line with the suggestions favored by a recent referendum of members of the United States chamber of commerce, it holding that American manufacturers and others should be encouraged to work together when the common purpose is shown to be the extension of American interests in foreign trade. With these suggestions in mind, it is interesting to note the developments in connection with each of these three steel concerns.

Actual negotiations in the proposed merger have already assumed definite form. Seventy-five per cent of the stockholders of the Youngstown Sheet & Tube Company have already voted favorably on propositions to option their holdings at $300 per share. Options on a large block of Cambria Steel Company stock were secured ten days or more ago. Stockholders of the Lackawanna Steel Company have been considering the matter of optioning their holdings for several weeks.

Inasmuch as it may be months before everything is settled in connection with the proposed merger, the Youngstown Sheet && Tube Company is going right ahead with its policy of expansion. The directors of the company have authorized the construction of an additional 500-ton blast furnace, adjoining the battery of 204 by-product coke ovens now under construction.

It is understood in Youngstown business circles that Frank A. Vanderlip, president of the National City Bank of New York and E. T. Stotesbury, a member of the Morgan Philadelphia house of Drexel & Company, will be directors of the new corporation, while rumor has it that James A. Campbell, president of the Youngstown Sheet & Tube Company, is slated for the chairmanship.

Owing to the recent activities of Mr. Vanderlip and other eastern financial interests in the recently organized American International Corporation, and their connection with the steel company merger negotiations, Youngstown steel men believe that the purpose of the merger is to affect greater economy of distribution, especially in respect to foreign trade.

U. S. TO LEAD THE WORLD

After the War, is the Sanguine Prediction of Judge Gary.

Judge Elbert H. Gary, president of the United States Steel Corporation, predicts that the United States can be leader of the world when the European war is over, and that England will adopt protective tariffs.

He says: "The longer war lasts, the worse it will be for those engaged and better for this country. With cost of war $40,000,000,000 annually, loss of productive capacity by death of 4,000,000 men annually and disablement of twice that number, the comparative growth of the United States must be very greatly increased.

"Future conditions, however, in this country will be largely determined by the attitude of the government toward capital and business."

FEAR LOSS OF PRESTIGE.

Johnstown People Concerned Over Losing Offices of Cambria Steel.

Attaching considerable importance to the rumor that Youngstown, O., is to be made the general offices of the proposed new steel merger which is to absorb the Cambria Steel Company, the people of Johnstown have become much concerned over the probable loss of the prestige as a steel center.

The Chamber of Commerce has taken the matter under consideration and is arranging for a meeting of the financial interests in control of the merger with a committee of the chamber to discuss the probable effect of the merger on Johnstown.

Mine Outfit Sold.

The complete mining equipment of the Franklin Coal Company at Westernport, Md., has been sold at receiver's sale to M. J. Miller, owner of the acreage which was being operated.

British Coal Exports Decrease.

The British export trade in coal in October, 1915, amounted to 3,530,546 tons, as compared with 3,944,487 tons in October, 1914.

THE DEMAND FOR STEEL SHOWS NO DIMUNITION

Handicapped With Orders on Hand, New Foreign Business Being Refused; Railroads Buying.

Any belief that the volume of steel business was falling off, was dissipated during the past week by the marvellous report of bookings made public by the United States Steel Corporation when an increase of more than a million tons in orders was shown. "A clearer indication that the orders were still coming in at an enormous rate could not be given," says Financial America.

"December is not usually an active month for steel orders, but the abnormal condition of times in every trade is liable to show that no precedent can be expected to be followed this year.

"There has been no let-up in the inquiries from abroad, the mills being handicapped in accepting this business because of the large orders already on hand and the uncertainty as to shipping conditions. With such conditions prevailing, many of the steel concerns had to turn down orders which in other times would have looked highly attractive. Premiums are still being offered and paid also by foreign interests for their materials, although the larger companies are not taking any business at above the regularly quoted levels.

"Railroad inquiries for equipment and other articles, including finished steel are good and expectations are that they will become even larger with the beginning of the new year. This feature of the situation is perhaps the most encouraging to the steel companies' officials, because as they view it, the railroads' activities in any line forecast what the future business generally will be.

"Steel plants of all kinds continue to operate at the highest possible speed, but it is not believed that any records were shattered because the mills have been working at capacity for weeks and every available plant is in use. That steel production during at least the first half of 1916 will show the largest total in the history of the industry in this country is not doubted. Present bookings of all the steel companies are being made at high levels, so that the business turned out in the next six months will prove highly profitable.

"It is practically certain that there will be no reduction in prices for a long time—in fact every important steel interest is looking for further advances—and this can only mean that the companies in the coming year will report record earnings. The United States Steel Corporation now has orders on its books sufficient to keep its plants at capacity for at least six months, and some of the other concerns are said to have bookings extending over a longer period.

"One important feature of the bookings of the steel companies is the fact that only a few contracts are on hand, and there is no doubt that these will not be cancelled because since they were taken prices have been advanced rapidly. For more than two months the steel companies have refused to take any contract business, all the customers being forced to place actual orders and in many cases specifications had to be filed with the business."

THE FUTURE FOR STEEL

Indications of Increased Pressure Rather Than Decreased Demand.

Forecasting the prospects of the iron and steel trade for the early future The Steel and Metal Digest asserts with some confidence that the present activity is not likely to abate for some months. "While the mills and furnaces," it notes, "are very well sold up for months there are no prospects of decreased consumptive demand, but rather indications of increased pressure in future. Railroads have not bought as many cars as was expected, some of them definitely refusing to buy on account of prices asked, and thus a short interest accumulates. The mills have largely withdrawn from the export market and a short interest is probably accumulating there also.

"As prices show no tendency to stop advancing, and as mills already cannot make as good deliveries as desired, the definite prospect is that some consumption will be shut off or deferred, and thus the period of activity promises to be prolonged. While the war demand is heavy it is no longer the backbone of the iron and steel market."

MANGANESE HIGHER

Increase of Foreign Quotations Makes Eastern Prices Firmer.

The Daily Iron Trade reports that domestic makers of ferro-manganese now are quoting $110, at the furnace, for either spot or first half year shipment. Offers of $100, furnace, which have been made to them within a few days, have been declined. One cause of the advanced quotations on domestic material is the increased price of foreign manganese ore, particularly that from Brazil, because of higher ocean freight charges.

English makers of ferro-manganese continue to offer metal in this country for shipment over the first half of next year as they are able at $100, seaboard. Additional sales of about 1,000 tons for first half shipment have been closed during the past few days at this price.

A NEW COAL PLANT.

Expected to Restore Casselman to the Map of the B. & O.

A large tract of coal land on the south bank of the Casselman river at Casselman has been purchased by E. E. Miller and Irwin Wolf. Preparations are reported under way to begin development of the tract by the construction of a mining plant.

It is expected that the new venture will be the means of restoring business life and activity in the town of Casselman, which has been at a standstill since the Baltimore & Ohio railroad and other steel interests are without at that point.

Bridge Business Brisk.

The American Bridge Company is now operating its eastern plants at close to full capacity, and operations during the month will probably average about 75% of total capacity.

LIST OF COKE OVENS IN

The Lower Connellsville District

With Their Owners, Address and Ovens in Blast Corrected to Saturday, Dec. 18, 1915.

Total Ovens	In Blast	Name of Works.	Name of Operators.	P. O. Address.
40	.....	Adah	Adah Coke Company	Uniontown
400	400	Alicia	W. Harry Brown	Alicia, Fay. Co
300	293	Allison No. 1	W J Rainey	New York
200	200	Allison No. 2	W J Rainey	New York
142	142	American No. 1	American C'ville C. & C. Co	Pittsburg
240	240	American No. 2	American C'ville C. & C. Co	Pittsburg
50	.....	American No. 3	American C'ville C. & C. Co	Pittsburg
40	40	Anica	The Wilkey & Feather Coke Co	Uniontown
120	.....	Atkinson	Republic Iron & Steel Co	Gaun
42	.....	Bellevernon	Bellevernon Coal & Coke Co	Pittsburg
100	100	Bridgeport	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
470	400	Brier Hill	Brier Hill Coke Co	Brier Hill
20	20	Browning	Browning Coke Co	Uniontown
50	40	Brownsville	Brownsville Coke Co	Uniontown
257	.....	Bessie	I W Semans	Uniontown
426	420	Buffington	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
34	34	Burchinal	Smithfield Coal & Coke Co	Smithfield
94	.....	Byrne	Byrne Coal & Coke Co	Scottdale
205	105	Century	Century Coke Co	Brownsville
40	40	Champion	Champion Connellsville Coke Co	Uniontown
500	420	Colonial No. 1	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
156	156	Colonial No. 3	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
300	200	Colonial No. 4	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
120	120	Crystal	United Connellsville Coke Co	Pittsburg
250	250	Dearth	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
286	286	Deebo	Reliance Coal & Coke Co	Pittsburg
402	402	Donald 1 & 2	Consolidated Connellsville Coke Co	Uniontown
100	100	Donald 3	Consolidated Connellsville Coke Co	Uniontown
400	400	Edenborn	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
144	144	Edna	Waltersburg Coke Co	Uniontown
132	.....	Eleanor	Sunshine Coal & Coke Co	Uniontown
82	82	Emory	South Fayette Coke Co	Uniontown
200	200	Fairbank	Struthers Coal & Coke Co	Fairbank
92	92	Finley	Jas. Bryne & Co	Uniontown
400	350	Footedale	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
80	80	Fretts	South Fayette Coke Co	Uniontown
119	90	Garwood	Aetna-Connellsville Coke Co	Connellsville
58	58	Genuine	Genuine Connellsville Coke Co	Uniontown
400	400	Griffin 1 & 2	Bessemer Coke Co	Pittsburg
210	210	Herbert	Connellsville Central Coke Co	Pittsburg
45	45	Hillside	Westmoreland Gas Coal Co	Pittsburg
74	74	Hoover	James H Hoover	McClellandtown
38	38	Hope	Hope Coke Co	Uniontown
196	196	Hunteed	Hunteed-Semans Coal & Coke Co	Uniontown
260	249	Isabella	Isabella-Connellsville Coke Co	Pittsburg
140	140	Katherine	Union Connellsville Coke Co	Uniontown
200	200	LaBelle	Labelle Coke Co	Labelle
220	220	Lafayette	Atlas Coke Co	Belen
402	400	Lambert	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
516	400	Leckrone	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
30	30	Leon	Franklin Coke Co	Mt. Pleasant
400	400	Lincoln	Lincoln Coal & Coke Co	Scottdale
40	40	Little Gem	The Bixler Coal & Coke Co	Pittsburg
250	250	Low Phos	Connellsville Central Coke Co	Pittsburg
34	34	Luzerne	Luzerne Coal & Coke Co	Pittsburg
64	64	Marion	Southern Connellsville Coke Co	Uniontown
244	.....	Martin	Republic Iron & Steel Co	Youngstown, O
202	202	McKeefrey	McKeefrey Coal Co	Leetonia, O
300	300	Mt. Hope	Mt. Hope Coke Co	Uniontown
60	60	Murphy	Echard Coal & Coke Co	Connellsville
50	.....	Newcomer	Newcomer Coke Co	Uniontown
100	100	Old Home	W J Parshall	Uniontown
480	400	Orient	Orient Coke Co	Uniontown
34	34	Parshall No. 1	Puritan Coke Co	Uniontown
168	160	Parshall No. 2	Puritan Coke Co	Uniontown
30	.....	Perry	Perry Coke Co	Pittsburg
72	72	Plumer	Plumer Coke Co	Uniontown
101	101	Poland	Poland Coal Co	Pittsburg
400	400	Republic	Republic Iron & Steel Co	Uniontown
120	62	Rich Hill	Rich Hill Coal & Coke Co	Outcrop
350	320	Ronco	H C Frick Coke Co	Pittsburg
86	.....	Rice	Rice Coal & Coke Co	Connellsville
373	288	Royal	W J Rainey	New York, N.Y.
30	30	Sackett	H B Sackett Coal & Coke Co	Smithfield
378	365	Searight	Taylor Coal & Coke Co	Uniontown
260	260	Shamrock	Fayette Coke Co	Uniontown
100	50	Solon	Prospect Coal & Coke Co	Uniontown
312	312	Sterling	Consolidated C'ville Coke Co	Uniontown
400	400	Thompson No. 1	Thompson-Connellsville Coke Co	Pittsburg
400	300	Thompson No. 2	Thompson-Connellsville Coke Co	Pittsburg
320	297	Tower Hill 1	Tower Hill Connellsville Coke Co	Uniontown
204	201	Tower Hill 2	Tower Hill Connellsville Coke Co	Uniontown
500	500	Washington 1	Washington Coal & Coke Co	Dawson
500	500	Washington 2	Washington Coal & Coke Co	Dawson
76	76	Wineland	Banning-Connellsville Coke Co	Uniontown
60	60	Wilmore	Wineland-Gilmore Coal & Coke Co	Uniontown
36	36	Yukon	Whyel Coke Co	Uniontown

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"72" HOUR BURNING

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STOVE SIZE, through 2½ Inch Screen.
CHESTNUT SIZE, through 1¾ Screen.
PEA SIZE, through ⅝ Inch and over ⅜ Inch Screen.
DUST, all resulting (less than ⅜ Inch.)

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The Trade Paper of the Connellsville Coke Region. Subscription price, $1 per year.

Connellsville Machine & Car Co.

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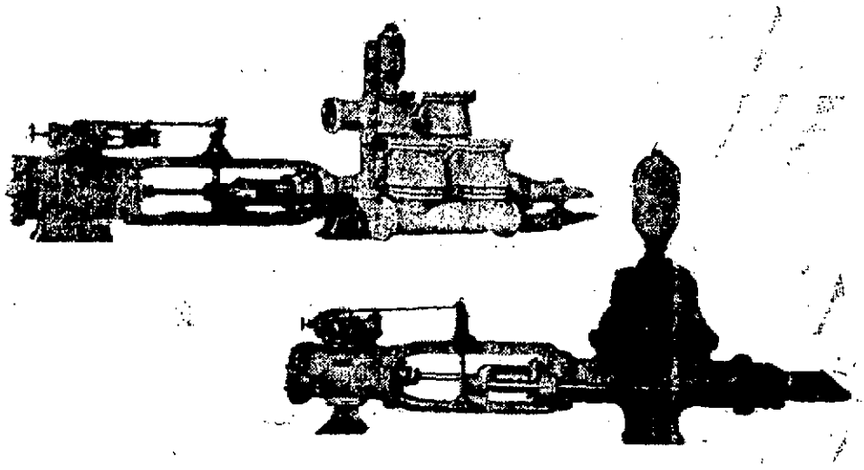
The Lafayette Steam Pump



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The Coke Plants of the Connellsville Region

Revised and corrected to July 1, 1915.

Being an alphabetical list of the coking plants of the Connellsville, Lower Connellsville, Upper Connellsville and Greensburg - Connellsville districts, with the names and addresses of the operators, and the railroad connections of the plants.

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THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 23, '15.

FAYETTE COUNTY'S SANTA CLAUS

The announcement that New York interests have agreed to finance the rehabilitation of J. V. Thompson's affairs so that bankruptcy proceedings will not be necessary and all the creditors will be secured is the finest Christmas promise that has come to the Connellsville coke region.

Its confirmation will lift a black shadow from the hearts and finances of Uniontown and make the sunshine of hope gleam brightly there. Christmas will be one of cheer instead of despair in the many homes of Fayette and Greene counties which now directly or indirectly feel the terrible pressure of this tottering collossus of coal land accumulation.

Christmas comes on Saturday. We will hope the temporary committee of the J. V. Thompson's Creditors' Association will be ready to play the Santa Claus. The sock is a big one, yet it needs only the positive and final assurance of responsible financial backers of the refinancing plans to fill it brimful and running over with Christmas joy.

WEST VIRGINIA'S WAIL.

"Help us ere we sink!" is the cry of the West Virginia coal operators wrung from their anguished souls by the proposal of the railroads to increase certain coal rates 15 cents per ton. A similar increase is now proposed in the Pittsburg district. Perhaps that will help some, though the complaint of the West Virginia operators is long and bitter. It declares that the mining business of the state suffers cruelly from price-cutting; that it does not get its fair share of immigrant labor; that railroad service is not always abreast of coal development; that taxation is higher, regulation stricter and inquisitorial inquiry more unendurable in West Virginia than elsewhere. In order to grapple with these ills a permanent state conference commission is proposed, to be made up of coal operators, railroad managers and members of the State Board of Trade.

The West Virginia operators have been coddled and cuddled by Big Business all their lives. They have never yet learned to walk alone. The operation will be awkward, but the sooner the accomplishment is acquired the better their going will be. A large portion of the coal business of West Virginia was once owned by the railroad interest and freight rates were rankly discriminatory to other regions, notably to the Pittsburg coal district and the Connellsville coke region. The latter have fought their way to justice since a fighting opportunity presented itself. They have always known how to walk alone and they have on occasions learned how to fight together for their rights.

They are without some of the afflictions of the West Virginia operators, chief among which we may note price-cutting, because they have never been permitted to get close enough together to force that growth known as grafting. Neither have they always had the coöperation of the railroads in developing their coal, nor have their experiences with legislation and taxation always been satisfactory. Upon the whole the latter have been similar to those of their West Virginia brethren, perhaps worse. As for immigrant labor, it might be sufficient to say that there is little or none of it coming just now, but that when it is arriving it is obtained by the usual methods which are well known and often practised by the West Virginia operators. This complaint on their part is rather childish.

What the West Virginia coal operators need worse than anything else is to learn and keep always in mind the old adage, "The Lord helps those who help themselves."

NEW RAILROAD POLICY.

The times change, the people change, public opinion changes.

Time was when the American railroad influence dominated the country. The people bowed to the railroad pass. The average citizen would do many things of doubtful propriety and questionable morality in order to be able to keep tucked in his pocket one of those squares of pasteboard which carried him free over the railroad lines whenever he desired to travel. The railroad managers were great rulers. They dictated to legislators as well as the public. The railroad pass was mighty magic.

But the element of honest business management entered into the situation one fine day when a railroad president said the system was all wrong and should exist on his lines no longer. Passes were abolished. The public applauded. The reform movement grew.

The succeeding legislative bodies in state and nation also discovered a great moral awakening. They awoke to the fact that the railrods had been imposing upon the public. Government regulation was proposed and enthusiastically put in force. It has been in operation ever since. Its effect has been to humble the haughty pride of railroad management to the dust. At the same time it has brought the finances of many railroads to sad, sick and ailing conditions.

"The public be damned!" once said a railroad magnate. The politicians responded by saying, "To hell with the railroads!"

Some of the railroads reached this destination without much trouble. Others better entrenched have managed to stay this side of bankruptcy. In the meantime it has been dawning upon the public that the railroads have been punished enough for the crime of trying to be good, and that it is time to recognize them as a necessary and desirable element in our national life. We have recently seen how closely the prosperity of the whole country is bound up in their prosperity, and it is beginning to be understood that in the event of war the railroads are a very important element of national preparedness.

Preparedness is the question of the hour. It involves the necessity of preserving our railroad facilities and strengthening them, instead of crippling them or killing them utterly. The Cantonian cry that the railroads must be destroyed has been changed to a more modern one. The railroads must and shall be preserved. We need them in our business. They are necessary to our national life. They constitute one of the most important agencies of our commercial prosperity and our national preservation.

COLONEL ROOSEVELT'S CHOICE.

The Big Bull Moose of Sagamore Hill is stirring, and there is room for suspicion that he has been poked.

Through the convenient medium of a Washington newspaper correspondent, who kindly relieves Colonel Roosevelt of all responsibility in connection with the story, the world is informed that if the Republican National Convention nominates any one of three men next June the nominee will have the active and enthusiastic support of the late Progressive party including its titular head. The three men having the unqualified approval of Colonel Roosevelt are, (1) Philander Chase Knox of Pennsylvania, just now credited with being an aspirant for United States Senator, whose name is set down first in the list; (2) Charles E. Hughes of New York, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court; and (3) Herbert S. Hadley of Missouri, former Governor of that State and the man whom Senator Penrose and other Taft leaders offered to nominate at Chicago in 1912 as a compromise candidate which offer Roosevelt brusquely declined with the information that there would be no other candidates before him in that contest. The present deliverance does not necessarily bar any other candidates, but it leaves them all in cruel doubt, and it savors too strongly of dictation from the Captain of the Lost Cause.

The Republican party is going to have harmony and victory in 1916 with Colonel Roosevelt if possible and without him if necessary.

It may be a matter of no significance, but the oblique announcement of Colonel Roosevelt comes but a few days after he was the chief guest at one of those famous Gary dinners at which there were present among others George W. Perkins, George F. Baker, Theodore Douglas Robinson, Jacob H. Schiff, Frank A. Vanderlip, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Samuel Guggenheim, Henry Walters, E. C. Converse, Clarence Mackay, George B. Cortelyou and Richard V. Lindabury, representing the class once variously denominated by the versatile Colonel as Captains of Industry and Malefactors of Great Wealth. Politicians were somewhat at a loss to account for the dinner. They could not think that Big Business really desired the nomination of Colonel Roosevelt for President in 1916. The announcement of the Colonel's preferences sheds an illuminating light upon the matter.

It is no doubt very flattering to Philander Chase Knox, and it is certainly highly gratifying to his Fayette county friends, that he should head the list of candidates which has the unqualified approval of Colonel Roosevelt, since there is nothing in the record or character of this favorite son of Pennsylvania which should not appeal to the Republican party and the people. As an Attorney General, a United States Senator and a Secretary of State he has proven himself to be a statesman and a patriot first and always, with a rating of practically 100% efficiency in the performance of his public duties. He would bring to the office of President more brains more business, more brilliance than have come to the White House for many years. The name of Knox is not new to the office of Chief Executive. It will be recalled that he was the choice of Pennsylvania in 1912 but he was not unfortunately at that time the choice of Colonel Roosevelt.

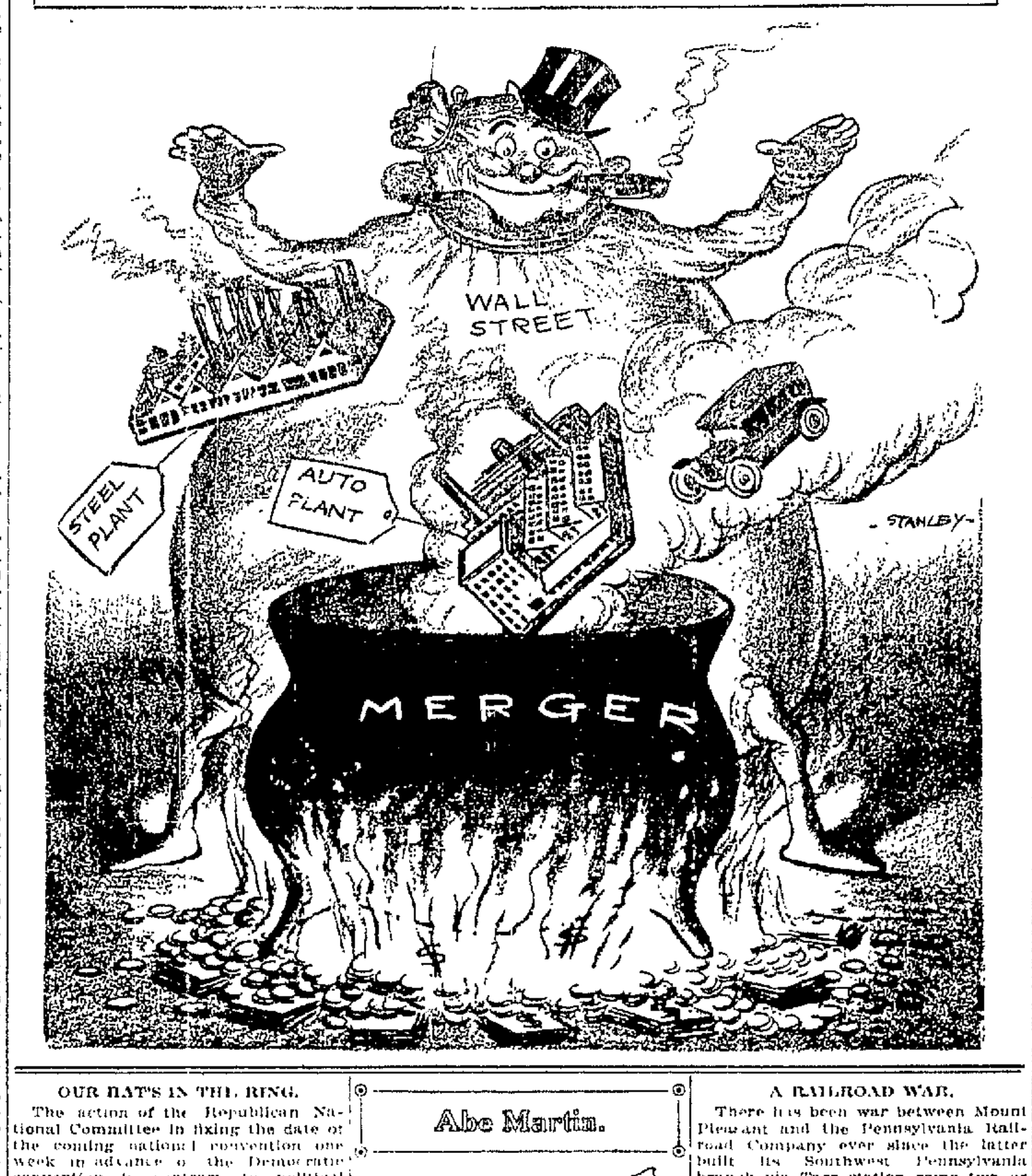
It is hard to nominate a Pennsylvania man for President on the Republican ticket because Pennsylvania is regarded as being a solid Republican state, and the honor is usually reserved for strengthening the forces of doubtful states. New York and Ohio have long traded on this condition. However, 1916 may be one of the times when the Republican party may feel great enough in the righteousness of its cause to nominate the strongest candidate it can find without regard to the state he hails from or the faction which may offer to support him.

The Republican party is reunited. It approaches the election of 1916 with an open mind, but with an iron purposes. There will be fair play in the coming Republican National Convention and the nominee of that convention will have the undivided support of the Republican party. There will be no dictation. The Progressives have put that out of fashion. The People Rule. What they say at Chicago will be the law unto all forms of party bossism. What Big Business desires and Colonel Roosevelt demands will not in the least matter after the people have spoken.

In the meantime, The Courier finds itself able to heartily second the motion of Colonel Roosevelt that the nominee of the Chicago convention be Philander Chase Knox of Pennsylvania, Fayette County's Favorite Son!

We hasten to answer the inquiry of "A Democratic Reader" by assuring him that our Washington correspondent finds no organized movement on foot among the Democrats in Congress to follow the example of China by converting our republic into an empire; but the rumor persists, and gains credence every day, that there will be a change of administration, March 4th, 1917, and with it a change of politics and policies.

BOILING



OUR HAT'S IN THE RING.

The action of the Republican National Committee in fixing the date of the coming national convention one week in advance of the Democratic convention is contrary to political precedent, which has ruled that the party in power shall have precedence in the matter of declaring its candidates and its policies. This preference has not been accorded because of any superior right of the dominant party, but because of an excess of caution on the part of the minority, which has always felt that it desired to be in a position to take advantage of any stragetical weaknesses in the ticket or the platform of the opposition.

The Republican party ignores this precedent for excellent reasons, first and chief among which is the fact that it is not the minority party. The Democratic party went into power as a minority party and it has not improved its condition one whit. On the other hand the Republican party is now and always has been, the majority party. It has been divided by an unprecedented factional quarrel, but it has remained the same old Republican party, and its elements have lost no time in getting together again to fight the common foe. One term of Democratic weakness and wantonness has been one too many. The acknowledged duty of the hour in Republican circles is to repair past errors by wiping out every vestige of Democratic control at the first opportunity, which will be during the coming year.

Firm in its faith of a perfect party reunion, and strong in its purpose to wipe out the record and retrieve the errors of the past, the Republican National Committee has hurled the Republican hat in the ring, the first gage of political defiance to land there. Its presence there will arouse Republicans to enthusiasm as never before. It will be the sign and signal of overwhelming and enthusiastic victory.

A RETAIL COAL DEAL.

The Connellsville retail coal dealers have boosted the price of coal in a manner which will probably make the consumer wonder whether some little combines are not worse than all the big ones. It is certain that they come closer home. The excuse given by the retail coal dealers for their radical advance in coal rates is that owing to the scarcity of coal cars on the railroads and the uncertainty of coal deliveries the prices of coal at the yards have greatly increased.

The Connellsville coal combine was not complete until the custom bank owners joined the movement. They have no car troubles to contend with. They are the chief beneficiaries because of their entire independence, but in the end they will probably be the deliverance of the people from the present yoke. The loudest complainants are the coal dealers who have been caught between the mine and the wagon, so to speak, and are being badly pinched. The chief sufferer however, is the public, but it will pay the freight without making any loud noises about it.

This retail coal deal is one which the public does not rejoice over, but which it will bear with patience as it does most of its ills.

Measles is one of the worst epidemics for a community to deal with because of the fact that all people will not have doctors to treat the disease, and such parents will refuse to report the cases to the health authorities or to take those wise precautions which are necessary to prevent the spread of the disease.

The Union Supply Company is some Santa Claus.

The head of a great Somerset and Fairmont coal company says a coal famine is imminent. Not while we have Jo Thompson's coal and the Monongahela railroad system both undeveloped.

Abe Martin.

Tad Kin allus 'let when Ed Pash puts on a red table cloth an's goin' t' open a can o' peaches.

Stew Nugent is back from th' Jefferson reformatory an' says ther's no place like Home Center.

We don't blame opportunity fer side-steppin some people.

Th' dealer never has your size in th' shoe you pick out in a show window.

Mrs. Tilford Moots' mother is ninety-two years ol' an' has never seen a Ford.

Ther's too many 'lite fer people grumblin' about fate.

Lots o' us have plenty, but no peace.

It wuz as quiet here Sunday as a successful man.

STATE REVENUES.

The revenues of Pennsylvania are approximately $32,000,000 annually, a good half of them coming from corporations in one form or another. Of the remainder 25%, comes from the following sources the figures being approximate:

Automobiles	$1,065,000
Liquor	1,720,000
Collateral Inheritance	2,285,000
Foreign Insurance	1,875,000

The remaining 25% comes from other sources.

The striking feature of this showing is that in spite of the fact that Pennsylvania is one of the few states in the Union which does not tax manufacturing corporations as such, the purpose being to encourage them to locate in this state nevertheless 50% of our gross tax income is derived through corporations in one form or another.

It pays to cultivate corporations in spite of the unkind remarks often made about them by undesirable citizens. The cultivation of corporations means the cultivation of wealth, which in turn means the cultivation of prosperity.

PITILESS PUBLICITY.

The experience of Greene county people with failed national banks has prompted Congressman Crago to introduce a bill in the House at Washington requiring greater publicity in the matter of receiverships of such institutions when they pass into such mysterious management. The bill requires receivers to file in the district court for public inspection at stated intervals statements of the condition of the banks for the information of all concerned.

Publicity is required of going banks for excellent reasons, but none whatever is provided for bankrupt banks whose creditors are always anxious to know where they are coming out, and if possible when. They are entitled to this information. Congressman Crago's bill is most wise and quite timely.

Pitiless publicity. That is good Democratic doctrine.

A RAILROAD WAR.

There has been war between Mount Pleasant and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company ever since the latter built its Southwest Pennsylvania branch via Tarr station some two or three miles aside from Mount Pleasant with the avowed purpose of "drying up" the then proud and pretentious borough.

The spirit of belligerency has been in the atmosphere ever since and the war has broken forth afresh. The militant authorities of Mount Pleasant threaten through the medium of the Public Service Commission to put the Pennsylvania railroad out of business, at least until it recognizes the claims of Mount Pleasant upon its consideration.

In the view of the Mount Pleasant authorities, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company made a contract in violation of the laws of the land and its charter obligations when it agreed with the West Penn trolley interests to permit the latter to have certain crossings over the railroad in return for which the trolley company pledged itself not to engage in the carrying of freight of any character.

The public will watch the outcome of such proceedings with concern. They will have a large collateral interest for the towns of the Connellsville coke region. Perhaps the best Mount Pleasant can do will be to obtain a decision from the Public Service Commission that the agreement between the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and the West Penn Railways Company is against public policy and therefore void. In short the trolley agreement will probably be vacated, but the charter of the railroad company will not be abrogated. If immediate and effective relief is accorded the condition complained of there will be no necessity for going further and destroying the property of innocent investors.

It is to be hoped, however, that there will be no decision from the Public Service Commission or elsewhere giving the West Penn trolley interest the right to carry small freight without imposing the obligation so to do.

THE MARRIAGE CONTRACT.

The News protests against the increasing number of divorces granted in Fayette county, but it must be remembered that Fayette is a growing county.

What shall we say of the case disposed of a few days ago wherein the wife alleges that she and her husband were married on the day of the Johnstown flood in 1889, and after she had borne eight children with faithful regularity he fled to far California and wrote that he desired to see her no more?

This woman was certainly entitled to a divorce. She was entitled to it long before she got it. She was entitled to more than a divorce. She was entitled to alimony, and plenty of it. The husband should have been compelled to help support the children.

The woman has perhaps arrived at the age when other experiments in matrimony would be unattractive to her. In such case she should have the help of the law to make her husband support her.

We may have too many divorces, but not too many attempts to make marriage contracts good.

That $3 coke is a fact, but $5 coke remains a fancy.

The Austrian situation is interesting for the many subjects of that empire employed in the Connellsville coke region, but not very many of them are taking it seriously. They trust to diplomacy to settle the entanglement, and most Americans join them in the hope. We do not want to have to mix in the foreign troubles if we can avoid them with honor.

THE TARIFF AND ITS PROPHETS.

Senator Penrose may be something of a political boss in Pennsylvania, but under the present Progressive primary system he is so with the consent of the people expressed at the polls, while at Washington he seems to be a Republican leader by virtue of his individual abilities as a statesman.

The Democrats have been assuring the country in an airy manner that the Tariff has no further place in politics because the country is prosperous. It will be noted that they have nowhere had the assurance to claim that the Underwood schedules were successful in their operation, but only that the good times are proof of the wisdom of Democratic statesmanship. The Democratic promise for the Democratic Tariff was that it would lower the high cost of living, stimulate home industry and increase the public revenue. It has done none of these things. It is an issue in the coming campaign. It is one of the Democratic experiments in government which has proven to be an egregious failure, and as Senator Penrose points out its effects would have been the blackest in the history of the American republic compared with which the depression under Cleveland and the Wilson Tariff bill would have been insignificant, had it not been for the intervening war in Europe.

Senator Penrose gives notice that the Democrats are going to be reminded of the facts in this matter during the present session of the Congress to the end that the full force and effect of Democratic policies shall be laid frankly before the public for its consideration in the fall of 1916, when it will have to be determined whether the country desires to remain under Democratic domination or to return to Republican rule.

In spite of the sneers of the Democrats the Tariff is an issue and Penrose is one of its Prophets.

Anomalous it is, but true it is asserted, that the profits of the war munitions factories at Lincoln, Nebraska are maintaining an average of 16 to 1 of those of the peace propaganda plant at that place.

During this Administration we have had White House brides, War brides, Peace brides, Cabinet brides, and soon it will be Presidential bridegroom. Cupid is entitled to a Cabinet portfolio.

King Coal is receiving belated tribute in these days of car and labor shortages.

The Lake ore interests met one day recently and announced an advance of 75 cents per ton for 1916 business. If Connellsville coke prices could be regulated with half so much ease and dispatch it would save a great deal of worry.

A Smithfield high school girl has eloped to Cumberland and graduated in the matrimonial bureau there. The example of Connellsville is catching.

Banker Fusarini has been brought back from Chicago. John Smith may be something of a politician, but he also seems to know his business as County Detective, yet some of the Democratic organs want to chase him off the job.

The cruel baseball war is over.

The Christmas tree has made its appearance, also the warning of the state authorities of the abilities of the Christmas tree as a conflagration producer.

The red cross seal is not going stale, but it is suffering from an unprecedented volume of competition.

The Connellsville Automobile Club has declared against the Democratic administration for imposing further taxes on gasoline. The club boldly joins the issue that the automobile is no longer the rich man's plaything, but has become the poor man's necessity.

Belgian relief ships go down, but the spirit of American charity swims out and starts to load another boat.

Connellsville drew down but one ribbon at the Uniontown chicken show, but she had a large number of favorable mentions on the day everybody turned out.

All the boys are good this week.

The Austrian troubles will not be allowed to trouble the White House honeymoon. The President is practising in the school of real diplomacy now.

The economy of one of the large types of freight engines is already questioned. It does not always follow that bulk makes for efficiency.

This is Christmas week and some people have still to accumulate the proper preparedness.

The sliding coke scale is very satisfactory just now, but it so seldom happens that it slides uphill!

Congress is asked to appropriate $7,500 for the purchase of one of Lincoln's old suits. This is one of the very few times on record when old styles bring high prices.

The 1916 automobile tags are beginning to appear, but the 1915 tag may not be shed with safety until the year is ended.

Connellsville gets one more Baltimore & Ohio rail and pay before Christmas and that will help Santa Claus some considerable.

Prominent specialists are coming to Connellsville to investigate and consider the cases of retardation in the common schools. Times have changed since father was a pupil in the little red brick school house on the hill. The only known remedy at that time for retardation was a long tough switch. It helped some.

All available furnace stacks are being blown in for the manufacture of pig iron. The Connellsville coke region has a few available ovens still idle, but not many. The steel boom has reached pretty nearly to the toes of its system.

Looking Backward

News of the Past Condensed from the Files of The Courier.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1885.

Detailed report of the coke trade for the week ending December 19th shows a total of 10,832 ovens in the region, of which 9,022 are in blast and 1,810 idle.

Shipments for the week aggregated 900 cars, consigned as follows: To Pittsburg, 250 cars; to points west, 475 cars; to points east, 175 cars. The Coke Syndicate handled 625 of the consignments.

After a two years' struggle in "the swamp of despair" the coke trade begins to feel the solid ground of prosperity under its feet as evidenced by the shipments which are up to the average of good times and steadily gaining.

An expected advance in prices of pig iron fails to materialize, which prompts the Syndicate to decide against an advance in price of coke or rates of wages for coke workers.

There is a revival of the oft-repeated rumor that the construction of the Ohio & Baltimore Short Line is to be resumed. Connellsville has visions of enlarged shops and yards, but Baltimore & Ohio officials give no assurances of a reality.

George W. Cover, of Saltlick township, who was a prominent witness for the defense in the trial of Staup for the murder of Glover in 1872, is convicted in court of perjury. He sold a sawmill, as his sole property, to Frank Browning and G. M. Serpell and received payment for it. Later his brother, John Cover, set up claim for a half-interest, brought suit and obtained judgment against Browning and Serpell. George Cover was arrested, jumped his bail, returned to court and after a trial characterized by "tall swearing" was convicted.

Amusement goers are entertained by "The Mikado," "Esmeralda" and Ralph Bingham, the boy orator.

Anson Wetherell and Charles Bishop open a peanut stand adjoining John Hetzel's meat shop on Pittsburg street.

P. J. Harrigan and G. M. Wise join an already large list of applicants for the postmastership.

In concluding the Connellsville contested election cases Judge Ingraham makes the observation, "that there might have been greater irregularities and abuses in conducting some other elections, but I never heard of that election." The lower ward election was declared void. Richard Campbell, the plaintiff from the upper ward, was qualified to fill the office of Justice of the Peace.

The order of Burgess Barnes to enforce Sunday closing proves ineffective because the ordinance under which he proceeded had not been signed by John Kurtz, burgess, at time of its enactment.

The Courier comments upon the demise of the skating rink craze as being fulfillment of its prediction that it would die if those who opposed it would leave it severely alone.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1895.

Detailed report of the coke trade for the week ending December 21, shows a total of 17,947 ovens in the region, of which 16,144 are in blast and 1,803 idle, with an estimated production of 172,279 tons.

Shipments for the week aggregated 10,000 cars, consigned as follows: To Pittsburg, 2,530 cars; to points west, 5,425 cars; to points east, 2,045 cars.

An advance in price of furnace coke from $1.60 to $2.00 is promptly followed by an advance of 10 per cent. in wages by the H. C. Frick Coke Company.

Christmas trade was of unusual volume among the stores. The weather was mild and large crowds were on the streets.

Congressman Acheson secures a pension of $12 per month for Mrs. Mary A. Freeman, widow of Andrew V. Pritchard, a Mexican veteran.

Contractor Erikson begins work on South Connellsville tin plate mill.

The Courier reporter notes that, "Rather eat turkey than meet a team of their own strength," the Uniontown football team backed out of a schedule game with Connellsville.

George Hetzel sells the biggest Christmas turkey; 23 pounds.

Col. J. J. Barnhart plays Santa Claus to the Sunday School at Summit Hill chapel.

Freeman Haggerty, section foreman from Davidson to Dunbar, wins for a second time a $50 prize for the best section on the Southwest branch.

R. P. Hopwood cherishes a desire to succeed E. F. Acheson as representative in Congress.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1905.

Detailed report of the coke trade for the week ending December 23rd shows a total of 23,313 ovens in the region, of which 22,168 are in blast and 1,145 idle, with an estimated production of 282,709 tons.

Shipments for the week aggregated 14,858 cars, consigned as follows: To Pittsburg, 4,181 cars; to points west, 8,709 cars; to points east, 1,968 cars.

Furnace coke is selling at $2.90 to $3.00; foundry at $3.50 to $3.75, with no prospect of decline.

Near approach of the spring election brings a formidable array of citizens forward as candidates for burgess, the announcements being, W. H. Brown, William McCormick, A. D. Soisson, Clair Stillwagon, M. Marietta, J. S. Marietta, Jacob Brickman, F. O. Goodwin, J. S. Bryner and J. H. Risbeck.

The record of deaths during the week includes the names of William Meagher, formerly manager of the Cambria Iron Company's Coke plants; Mrs. Nancy Richey and Mrs. Jane McCarthy.

A. S. Silcox purchases the property of the Cooley heirs, North Pittsburg and Peach streets, for $36,500.

Lights For Station Platform.

Two electric lights are being placed at the Baltimore & Ohio platform by the railroad company. The lights are supported by steel standards, and are placed at the upper end of the platform, one is located near the news stand.

PRACTICABLE PLAN FOR ADJUSTMENT OF THOMPSON'S AFFAIRS

Believed to Have Been Worked Out by the Special Committee.

EASTERN CAPITALISTS TO AID

A Permanent Committee Representing Both Secured and Unsecured Creditors to Act in Place of the Temporary Committee; Plan Up to Creditors.

More tangible and real progress in determining upon a definite plan for the adjustment of J. V. Thompson's financial difficulties seems to have been accomplished within the past forty-eight hours than has marked the whole period of his embarrassment until now.

For a number of days past a committee, selected from the membership of the J. V. Thompson Creditors' Association, has been in daily conferences with a representative of the eastern financial interests whose co-operation and support has been enlisted in working out a feasible and practicable plan of reorganization and readjustment. The members of the committee which is meeting with the personal representative of the eastern capitalists, is composed of T. E. Lackey, E. C. Higbee, H. L. Robinson, D. W. Henderson, A. P. Austin, W. J. Johnson and D. M. Hertzog.

At the preliminary conferences a tentative outline of the main features of the proposed plan was considered, suggested amendments and modifications were discussed and, in the main, agreed to and accepted. At a session lasting until a late hour Monday the complete and final draft was submitted. Of the deliberations of the conference, the scopo and general character of the readjustment plan, and the promise it holds for a final and satisfactory solution of the situation, A. P. Austin was delegated by the committee to make the following announcement:

The committee believes it has finally solved Mr. Thompson's affairs and it has agreed upon a plan of reorganization and readjustment. The plan contemplates the formation of a permanent creditors' committee which will take the place of the committee which is acting now. This committee will represent those of both the secured and unsecured creditors who agree finally upon the arrangement.

Probably a majority of the committee will be composed of local people and the other members will represent large creditors in Pittsburg and West Virginia. The committee is now endeavoring to secure the consent of the men who have been suggested as members of this committee.

When the committee has finally been agreed upon their report will be made to the J. V. Thompson Creditors' Association, of which M. M. Cochran, Esq., is chairman and it will be for them to approve the selection of a permanent committee made by the present temporary committee.

When this committee is approved, and a sufficient number of creditors, both secured and unsecured, signify their willingness to co-operate in the plan which is under advisement, it is thought there will be no question that Mr. Thompson's affairs will in time be adjusted satisfactorily to every one.

The temporary committee is pleased with the plan proposed and is now engaged in getting it into such shape that they think it will be acceptable to every one. They think it is perfectly feasible and that it requires modification in only minor details.

The papers are now being put into final shape and it will then be submitted to the creditors. It is upon their prompt action then that a successful issue of the matter will depend.

The committee is satisfied that there is no doubt whatever of the ability of the people behind the project to finance it.

It has developed that the property does not require the extensive physical rehabilitation or the elimination of burdensome entanglements and contracts which the the usual cause of long receiverships, and that satisfactory results can be accomplished by early refinancing.

At the conclusion, at a late hour Tuesday, of another all day's conference between the temporary committee of the J. V. Thompson Creditors' Association and the representatives of eastern capitalists, an officially authorized statement was given out to the effect that further progress had been made in the development of the proposed plan of liquidation.

The membership of the committee comprising attorneys it was but natural that much of the time of the conference was consumed in a discussion of the legal aspect of certain problems. These had largely to do with provisions relating to the several receiverships which have resulted from Thompson's embarrassment, and made the situation much more complex and difficult of solution. The object in working out these legal problems was that the permanent creditors' committee might become vested with title to the numerous properties of Thompson and thus be able to fully and properly perform its functions as a liquidating agent.

The suggested methods of overcoming the legal difficulties were formulated and assented to by the members of the committee. A draft was prepared and promptly dispatched east for examination and approval by the attorneys of the financial interests whose support is an essential and vital element in the plan of rehabilitation.

A meeting of the Fayette County Bar Association will be held this afternoon when, it is anounced, the general plan of liquidation agreed upon by the recent conferences will be submitted to the attorneys representing the Thompson claims. It is further stated that the identity of the financial interests which have been enlisted in the plan will be revealed at this meeting.

The statement which th committee authorized A. P. Austin to give to the public was as follows:

"So far as the Creditors' Committee and the representative of the financial interests are concerned they are in agreemant upon the draft of the plan proposed for solving the local financial situation. Some amendments and amplifications were suggested by the temporary committee. These in the main have been accepted by the Eastern representative.

"The amended draft of the plan is now being sent to the East for formal approval of the financial interests involved. The modifications and extensions to the original draft are intended to further protect the interests of the unsecured creditors.

"Although the holiday season will soon intervene it is not expected that any great delay will be experienced in the return of the draft. All parties interested in the present movement are moving with the greatest possible celerity and the matter is going forward rapidly.

"The committee feel that there is nothing now in the way of the final consummation of the contemplated plan of reorganization.

"During Monday and Tuesday so many assurances of support and co-operation were received by the committee that they are convinced they have the hearty indorsement of the creditors. The committee believes that with the hearty co-operation of Mr. Thompson's creditors that in time those who join in this movement will eventually realize the full amount of their claims."

CIVIL COURT CONTINUED

There Will be No Civil Session in January; May Go Until Fall.

UNIONTOWN, Dec 21.—After lengthy arguments participated in by the greater number of attorneys of the Fayette county bar, it was decided at the session of court today to continue the civil list generally. At the next session, which will be held on Friday, December 21, the time for the next term will be decided. Whether this will be held in March, April or May, or go over until September, will be settled then. Pressure was brought to bear to continue the cases on the list on account of the approaching settlement of the Thompson situation.

A brief session of sentence court was held. Francis M. Dickerhoff of Scottdale, convicted of bigamy, was sent to the penitentiary for not less than nine months nor more than a year. He married Frances May Kimmell in Connellsville while he still had a wife living.

Andy White, convicted of a serious offense, was released on payment of costs, condition being made he marry the girl in the case, who is willing.

Joseph Hoffman, convicted of carry concealed weapons and recommended to the mercy of the court, was given 30 days in jail.

POOR MAIL SERVICE

Dawson District Hard Hit by Changes in Train Schedule.

Poor evening mail service between Connellsville and Dawson has resulted from the last change of schedule on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad. The last mail for Dawson, which means for the surrounding towns and rural routes as well, now leaves on No. 16 at 4.20 P. M., No. 49 which formerly carried the mail to Dawson at 6.30 P. M., having been taken off west of Connellsville.

Mail which comes to the office after 4 o'clock in the afternoon for points west does not go out until the next morning. No. 5, leaving here at 8 P. M., carries westward mail, but not for Dawson. Even if arrangements were made for this train to carry mail to Dawson, it would be of little benefit for it would arrive at Dawson after the postoffice closed for the night. Dawson is the distributing office for Vanderbilt and the rural routes diverging from there.

WINDING UP YEAR

South Connellsville Council Will Soon Hold Last Meeting.

The present South Connellsville council will hold its last session to wind up business for the year on the night of December 30. At the end of the year John Wilder, J. L. Reynolds, J. L. Miller, Grant Minerd and Charles Durbin will retire. Two of the present body, Christ Kleabish and G. R. Wadsworth, hold over.

The new councilmen are all Republicans: Burnet Burkhart, G. R. Langford, R. S. Pierce and Sherman Weaver were elected for four years and William Trevitt, Republican, will serve two years.

Other new officers to take charge in South Connellsville after January 1 are William Sisley, burgess; Norval Morgan, high constable and Roy Trenberth, auditor.

The new school directors, W. H Bruce and W. T. Hetrick, have already assumed office.

FORMERLY IN COKE REGION.

New Allegheny Commissioner Got Start on B. & O. Near Here.

Gilbert F. Myer, elected commissioner of Allegheny county yesterday by the common pleas judges to take the place of John A. Martin, deceased, was at one time a resident of Connellsville, having served the Baltimore & Ohio in various capacities for a number of years.

Mr. Myer became a car inspector for the railroad here when 21 years old and later became agent at West Newton. He also served as agent and dispatcher at Broad Ford for three years. Moving to McKeesport in 1886, he engaged i the real estate business and is now president of the Realty Company, the largest company of its kind there.

BIG NIGHT CHOOL.

Altoona Has 1,700 Attending, With a Population of 60,000.

Altoona, with a population of 60,000, has an evening school enrollment of 1,700, with new pupils registering every night. The school authorities expect 2,000 will be enrolled before the New Year.

The evening schools of Altoona offer short unit courses in carpentry, pattern making, machine shop practice, sheet metal work, sewing, cooking and dressmaking, beside a liberal schedule of academic work.

YOUNG MEN URGED TO SERVE A TERM IN NATIONAL GUARD

Youth of the Nation Knows Knows Little of Military Fundamentals.

PERTINENT QUESTIONS ASKED

How Many Times Can You Hit a Target With Rifle? Can You Cook, Care for Yourself and Get Proper Rest on a Hike, Are Some Inquiries.

The spirit of preparedness has come close to home. The youth of Connellsville is being questioned as to what it knows about soldiering—young men are being asked how much they know about military training. There are some who have come to a realization of how long it would take them to learn to be an efficient military man in case this country should be drawn into a war of defense. Little leaflets circulated by Captain J. C. Herwick and other officers of Company D contain the following questions:

Do you agree that every American should be a fair shot with a rifle? Are you?

Have you ever shot a military rifle?

Do you know that inexperienced men do not average one hit in 10?

Do you think you could do better? If not why not learn?

Do you know that the National Government provides rifles, ammunition, range, expenses, etc., absolutely free to the National Guard?

Do you know anything about drill?

Could you handle a squad or platoon?

Do you know anything about taking care of yourself on a hike?

Could you cook your own rations, take care of your equipment, build a shelter tent, or secure your needed rest on a hike or bivouac?

Do you know that the Pennsylvania National Guard is now supported to teach young men just these things without interfering with other duties

Do you know that under our system of government every citizen is voluntarily supposed to learn these things?

If you believe in our system of government, why not learn these things by serving at least one enlistment in the National Guard?

"No young man can fail to be impressed with his lack of knowledge of the fundamentals of military training if he asks himself these questions," said a former Company D officer. "I hope to see Captain Herwick flooded with enough applications to form another company. In former wars Connellsville always distinguished herself and there is no reason why her present sons should not be ready to do so in case the dire emergency arose."

Information can be received by applying to Captain Herwick at the armory on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings or daily at Boyle, Porter & Company office.

CENTENNARIAN IS DEAD

Ambrose Dillinger, Native of Greene County, Lives to be 100.

Ambrose Dillinger, 100 years and three months old, died on Tuesday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. E Sturgiss, at West Point Marion. Mr. Dillinger's father, Augustine Dillinger, was the first permanent settler in Greene county, having settled there in 1765.

Deceased lived during the terms of 24 Presidents and voted at 19 presidential elections beginning in 1836 when Martin Van Buren was his choice. He voted for every Republican candidate for president from Fremont down to Taft. At the outbreak of the Civil War Mr. Dillinger wanted to enlist but was disqualified on account of his age.

He is survived by three children, Mrs. Sarah Komp of Illinois; Mrs. J. E Sturgiss, with whom he made his home and Leonard Dillinger of Uniontown. He is also survived by a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

HIGHWAY SHAKEUP.

Commissioner Cunningham Announces Changes in His Department.

State Highway Commissioner Robert J. Cunningham has made a shakeup in his department and Fayette is one of the counties affected. Division Engineer H. B. Stevens, who has had charge of the state highway work in this county, has been removed, and is succeeded by E. L. Clemmer, formerly inspector of contract work.

A. B. Gray remains as engineer in charge of District No. 14, with headquarters at Washington, and which includes Fayette.

Other changes have been made in the various districts and there has also been some redistricting.

FULL CREW HEARINGS.

Public Service Commission Considering Complaints of Trainmen.

Hearings began Tuesday before the Public Service Commission at Harrisburg upon complaints made about the full crew law. Large delegations of trainmen are in attendance to bring to the attention of the commission a number of problems which have arisen out of an application of the law to the operation of trains and distributing yards.

The railroad companies have a large representation present to combat the contentions of the trainmen. The hearings will close tomorrow night.

Injured by Fall.

Mrs. John Blaney of Smock, who is visiting her father, J. B. Crow in Uniontown, fell on the icy pavement Thursday and suffered a fracture of the wrist.

Licensed to Wed.

Harry T. Harkcom of Mount Pleasant, and Lillian Leighty of East Huntingdon township were granted a marriage license in Greensbug yesterday.

The Grim Reaper

RICHARD D. KERFOOT

Richard D. Kerfoot, a resident of Connellsville for a number of years, died Monday at his home, 221 South Alley, following a brief illness. He had been ill for three days and was confined to his bed since yesterday morning. Pneumonia, developed from a severe cold and resulted in his death.

Deceased was born in Martinsburg, W. Va., a son of James M. and Catherine Kerfoot. He came to Connellsville and for 16 years was a teamster for the late B. C. Stauffer, and for six years was teamster for the city. Mr. Kerfoot married Miss Margaret F. Trump, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Trump of this city.

In addition to his widow he is survived by two children, George Kerfoot and Mrs. J. A. Allen, both of Connellsville; two sisters, Mrs. F. A. Orr of Salem, W. Va., Mrs. Anna Ruby, and one brother, Robert Kerfoot, both of Martinsburg, W. Va., also survive. Rev. J. S. Showers, pastor of the United Brethren Church, will officiate at the funeral.

MRS. LYDIA O'DONNELL

Mrs. Lydia O'Donnell, 78 years 11 months old, of Knoxville, wife of John O'Donnell, died Thursday at the home of her son, John O'Donnell, 823 Eighth street. About five weeks ago Mrs. O'Donnell came here for a visit at the home of her son. She contracted a severe cold. Pneumonia later developed and resulted in her death. Funeral from the O'Donnell residence Sunday morning at 8.30 o'clock. Requiem high mass was celebrated at 9 o'clock at the Immaculate Conception Church. Interment in St. Joseph's cemetery.

Mrs. O'Donnell before her marriage was Miss Lydia Nole. She was a resident of Connellsville for about 30 years. About ten years ago the family went to Knoxville to reside. In addition to her husband, Mrs. O'Donnell is survived by two sons, John O'Donnell, Jr., of Connellsville; Charles O'Donnell of Cincinnati, O., and four daughters, Misses Josephine, Mary and Irene O'Donnell of Knoxville, and Mrs. Ralph Haven.

MRS. JULIA POLAK

Mrs. Julia Polak, 67 years old, a well known Slavish resident of Vanderbilt, died last week at the home of her son, Anthony Polak, a butcher at Vanderbilt, and a resident there for 28 years.

MRS. ANNA BOWLIN.

Mrs. Anna Bowlin, wife of Walter Bowlin, died at the family residence 205 North Prospect street. Funeral from the residence Monday morning at 8:30 o'clock. Services from St. John's Slavish Catholic Church in the West Side at 9 o'clock. Interment in St. John's cemetery. Mrs. Bowlin is survived by her husband, two children and one brother, Albert Pisarick.

MISS ELIZABETH TISSUE.

Miss Elizabeth Tissue, 50 years old, died Friday at the home of her brother, Levi Tissue, at Whig Corner, near Bear Run. Funeral from the Tissue residence on Friday morning at 10 o'clock and at 11 o'clock services will be held from the Indian Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Wortman officiating. Interment in Indian Creek cemetery. Two brothers, Levi Tissue of Whigs Corner, and Austin Tissue of Mill Run, survive.

JAMES JOSE.

James Jose, 83 years old, father of Thomas Jose of Dunbar died Friday at his home in Mount Savage, Md. Mr. Jose was a Mason and for 27 years was wreckmaster for the Cumberland & Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

MRS. LENA BIGAM.

Mrs. Lena Bigam, 52 years old, a well known resident of Indian Creek, died Saturday at her home following an illness of bronchial pneumonia. Mrs. Bigam was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Dahl, and spent the greater part of her life at Indian Creek. Her husband died some time ago.

Two children, Edward and Cora Magdalene, two sisters, Mrs. C. Stickel of Mill Run, Mrs. J. W. Cole of Leisenring No. 1, and four brothers, C. J. Dahl, William Dahl of Cumberland, Daniel Dahl of Meyersdale, and Philip Dahl, located in the West, survive.

MRS. ELIZABETH NELSON.

Mrs Elizabeth Ritchey Nelson, a former resident of South Connellsville, died Saturday at the residence of her son, Paul Nelson in Morgantown. Funeral services were held Tuesday morning from the Nelson residence. Mrs. Nelson was 85 years old. She is survived by four sons, Stanley and Paul Nelson of Morgantown, Campbell Nelson of Idaho, and William Nelson of Marion, Ind.

DOMINICK MANZELLO.

Dominick Manzello, 4 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Manzello, died Saturday at the family residence on the corner of Banning and Twelfth streets, West Side, of acute bronchitis. Services were held Monday morning at 11.37 o'clock from the Immaculate Conception Church, with interment in St. Joseph's cemetery.

EZRA J. ROSS.

Ezra J. Ross, one of the best known resident of the Klondike, died Saturday at his home at Masontown, following a brief illness.

ROBERT LEE LOCKRIDGE.

Robert Lee Lockridge, 61 years old, a resident of South Brownsville for a number of years, died Monday morning following a several months' illness.

CATHERINE MAHAFKA.

Catherine Mahafka, 21 months old, died Monday at her parent's residence at Broad Ford. Interment Wednesday in St. John's cemetery.

BENJAMIN JORDAN.

Benjamin Jordan, 73 years old, died Monday at his home at the White Rocks. He is survived by his widow, three sons and three daughters.

If you have coal land for sale advertise it in The Weekly Courier.

INJURY TO BOY STARTS PROTEST AGAINST AUTOS

South Pittsburg Street Residents Say Street is a Speedway.

LAD RUN DOWN BY A TRUCK

Physician Finds it Necessary to Put Several Stitches in His Head; Speed Limit Forgot Over Newly Paved Stretch of South Side Street.

A truck operated by the Crossen Brothers, South Pittsburg street grocers, ran down Aurelius Gigliotti, 7 years old, near the lad's home on South Pittsburg street Monday with the result that residents of that section of the South Side are in arms over what they declare to the absolute disregard for life and limb that has been displayed by automobile drivers since the street was paved.

It is not charged that the driver of the Crossen truck was entirely at fault in running down the youngster, but the accident, they declare, merely demonstrates the hazard which accompanies travel along the city's main thoroughfare to the South Side.

Little Aurelius was playing in front of his home, along with some other boys. He got into the path of the Crossen truck in time to be struck. He was taken to the home of Dr. T. B. Echard, where several stitches were put in a gash that had been made in his head. He was otherwise bruised and badly frightened. The lad is the son of Antonio Gigliotti, who runs a store opposite the Carnegie Free Library.

An appeal was made this morning that Mayor Marietta assign a special policeman to the South Side with orders to nab the speeders. The mayor will consider the matter, but stated that if he did assign the policeman, he would not make the fact public.

Residents along the South Side say there is no such thing as a speed limit since Pittsburg street was repaved. Daily there are narrow escapes from collisions at the corner of Fairview avenue, where traffic in all directions is rather heavy. From Fairview to Crawford avenue, however, it is a straightaway, and few drivers, apparently, can resist the temptation to "open her up," especially if they are ambitious to take either the Pittsburg street or Crawford avenue hills on "high."

"This town needs an intelligent traffic ordinance, and after one is passed it ought to be enforced," a business man said today.

"What this town needs is some regulation of auto trucks," was the comment of an automobile owner. "It seems the smaller they are the faster they go. I believe I am conservative in stating that out of every 10 reckless drivers, nine of them drive trucks. I do not say that there is not recklessness among the drivers of pleasure cars, but I do contend that the percentage is smaller. The man who owns his own car is less likely to take chances of a smashup, that will cost him real money, than the fellow who is driving for somebody else and who doesn't lose anything if he does wreck the machine. I do not contend that truck drivers, as a class, are reckless. Most of them, I know, are not only careful drivers, but better mechanics than nine out of 10 fellows who own their own cars. There are, however, a number of young fellows driving automobile trucks who should be curbed, and the automobile club should take cognizance of the situation. One of them recently lost his driver's license, I understand.

"Speaking of the automobile club," this man continued, "I intend to recommend that it urge upon council the passage of a traffic ordinance, and its subsequent enforcement, that will apply to all vehicles."

STUBBORN BLAZE

Firemen Work for Hours at Fire in an Empty Dwelling.

A double frame house on Queen street, owned by William Gioffetty, was gutted by fire early Tuesday, the firemen working nearly four hours to get the stubborn blaze under control. The house was unoccupied and the origin of the fire is unknown.

An alarm was turned in by neighbors at 12.45. The firemen responded and soon had two streams of water on the flames. The flames had gotten good headway and as fast as the firemen would subdue the fire in one section it would break out in another. It was not until 5.15 that the firemen withdrew. By that time the interior of the structure had been burned out though the walls are standing. Adjacent homes were not harmed. The loss is estimated at about $2,000. The houses had been unoccupied for some time.

Water from the firemen's hose flowed down the car tracks on West Main street in a miniature river. It froze before dawn, leaving parts of the streets in precarious condition until the sun thawed the ice.

SEEK MISSING MAN.

Relatives of Steve Guzzle of California, Pa., Looking For Him.

Efforts are being made to locate Steve Guzzle, 20 years old, who left his home in California, Pa., on August 26 and is now believed to be working in the mines of the Connellsville region.

The missing man's mother, Mrs Susanne Guzzle, died suddenly and it is desired to locate him.

Wants Execution Hurried.

GREENSBURG, Dec. 22.—Charles Douglas, a negro, convicted of murder for killing John Smith, near Monessen, was sentenced to electrocution yesterday by Judge W. H. Rupple, president judge of the courts of Somerset county. Douglas expressed the wish that "they would hurry up."

Subscribe for The Weekly Courier.

COAL PRICES ARE ADVANCED BY LOCAL COMPANIES

Increase in Price to Consumer is From 1 to 2 Cents a Bushel; Say a Famine Threatens.

The cost of domestic coal has been advanced by Connellsville dealers from one to two cents a bushel as the result of an agreement reached by four of the leading concerns at a conference last week. The dealers say they have been forced into this stand by the increasing cost of coal at the mines, and a threatened scarcity of fuel.

The dealers who entered into the agreement were the Connellsville Coal Company, Keough Coal Company, Lang Coal & Sand Company, and Joseph T. Johnston. The higher prices become effective immediately.

Washington Run hard coal, which has sold in lumps at $9.75 a hundred bushels, is advanced to $10.50. The same coal, for run of mines, which sold for $9 and $9.50, will cost $10. West Virginia coal, Pittsburg seam, which has always been a popular domestic fuel here, is advanced from $8 to $10. Custom coal, handled by the Lang Coal & Sand Company, is advanced from $7.50 to $8.50.

The average load delivered is 50 bushels, which means the consumer will pay from 50 cents to $1 a load more for his coal than heretofore.

Recently the mines advanced prices sharply. It is virtually impossible to secure full delivery on contracts. Either the mines do not have the cars or else they are taking advantage of every opportunity to slight contract obligations and ship their fuel out at the bonanza prices now obtaining in the East. Coal which two months ago sold at 85 cents a gross ton is bringing $1.50 and upwards at the mine.

The car shortage had affected deliveries here and retail dealers say a shortage of fuel is not only possible, but probable.

AGED WOMAN'S THROAT CUT

Greensburg Police Suspect Despondent Daughter.

GREENSBURG, Dec. 22.—"There's blood all over our house!" shouted 4-year-old Edward Seeman, son of E. H. Seeman of Frederick and Jack streets, to neighbors. They found Mrs. Sophia Seeman, aged 73, lying unconscious in a bed with her throat cut. In another room, a daughter, Miss Frances Seeman, aged 42, was found wandering aimlessly about, with an ugly wound in her throat. Mrs. Seeman cannot recover.

The police believe the daughter, who is said to be weak-minded, suddenly became violent and attacked her aged mother and then attempted to take her own life with a table knife. According to the daughter, she entered her mother's room and discovered Mrs. Seeman cutting her throat. Thinking her mother had killed herself, Miss Seeman said she became despondent and then attempted to kill herself.

MAY TAKE CAR PLANT

Capitalists Said to be After Haskell & Barker Works.

The proposed merger of the big independent steel companies, including the Youngstown Sheet & Tube Company, the Cambria Steel Company, and the Lackawanna Steel Company, it is said will further include the monster plant of the Haskell & Barker Company at Michigan City, valued at $15,000,000, and which is largely owned by Mrs. Spaulding, formerly Miss Katherine Barker, the $32,000,000 heiress.

The New York capitalists have been in Michigan City for the last ten days making an appraisment of the plant, and it is reported that the deal for the purchase of the plant, which now employs 3,000 men, will be closed within ten days. The Haskell & Barker Car Works is equipped to manufacture steel cars and is the largest car making plant in the West.

UPHOLD CLARK ACT

Foot Front Rule in Paving Assessments Held Not Discriminatory.

Residents of York who fought the provisions of the Clark third class city law which permit the assessment of street paving costs according to the foot front rule lost their case this week.

Judge Ross of the York county court yesterday handed down a decision upholding the manner of making assessments. The property owners sought to show that the forms of paving assessments under the act permitted discrimination by city council.

Since becoming a third class city Connellsville has had but two of its newly paved streets assessed. The viewers used the foot front rule for Ashman and Baldwin avenues but the court has not yet approved their schedules.

WANTS TO GO TO JAIL.

Man Arrested Here Says He'd Like a 60-Day Sentence.

Frank McCann, arrested last night for drunkenness and threatening a restaurant man whom he had not paid for a meal, told the police this morning the he would like to be sent to jail for 60 days. It's a pretty warm place in the winter, McCann says.

As the mayor was absent today, and there were only two arrests last night, one of them a train rider, no hearings were held this morning.

SCHOOLS CLOSED.

Teachers Got Measles at Institute, So State Acts.

Orders have been received at Somerset from the State Department at Harrisburg to close the schools of eight teachers, who are said to be suffering from measles contracted while attending the recent Somerset county institute.

The schools affected are four in Conemaugh township, three in Upper Turkeyfoot township and one in Casselman.

Licensed to Wed.

Harry Underwood and Ida C. Hall, both of South Brownsville; Lewis Keith of Trotter and Mary E. Thompson of Connellsville, were granted marriage licenses in Uniontown yesterday.

XMAS VACATION BEGINS FOR THE SCHOOL PUPILS

Special Exercises are Observed in the Grade Rooms This Afternoon.

CAROLS IN THE HIGH SCHOOL

Youngsters Will Have a Holiday Until January 10; Out of Town Teachers are Departing for Their Homes to Enjoy the Mid-Year Vacation.

The public schools closed for the Christmas vacation Tuesday. Regular work was conducted until the afternoon session, when time was given over to the annual Christmas programs and treats.

The high school held its Christmas program at chapel this morning. A novel feature of this was the chanting of Christmas carols by little folks from the primary rooms taught by Misses Sarah Moreland and Hazel Johnstone. The little folks were followed by the high school mixed chorus and ensemble singing by the entire school.

This afternoon the grades had their Christmas treats. The Fourth street school on the West Side had an elaborate feed of sandwiches, pickles and ice cream, the money won in the Hallowe'en parade having been set aside to pay for it. Grades 2 and 3 in the Fourth Ward building went together and had a Christmas tree. Grade 5 in this building also had a tree. In the Second Ward there was a tree for all grades in the hall and a Santa Claus to distribute gifts. A novel feature of this ward's program were "Xmas pies." The South Side, Third Ward and the other West Side buildings also had Christmas programs of an interesting character.

The last of the series of psychological lectures was delivered to the teachers by Dr. Jesse Hays White in the high school assembly room yesterday afternoon. Prior to that Mr. White addressed the high school students for 30 minuets on "The Measure We Must Live By."

The out-of-town teachers on the high school faculty will leave today and tomorrow for their homes to spend the holidays. Miss Katherine Mayo will go to Smethport, Pa., Miss Zara LaVerne Delin to Youngstown, O.; Miss Irene M. Crawford to Mount Clemens, Mich.; Miss Jennie Weaver to Gloversville, N. Y.; Miss Louise Hench to Harrisburg; Miss Mary J. Stryker to Alexandria, Pa; Paul Saunders to Alfred, N. Y.; W. H. Seawright to New Brighton; S. G. Fegley to Mertztown, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Stone to Annapolis, Md.; and G. W. Lieth to Woodside, L. I. Mr. Lieth recently resigned from the faculty and will become a chemist for the duPont Powder Company at Wilmington, Del., on January 3.

Principal B. B. Smith will spend his vacation at Bellevernon and Superintendent S. P. Ashe at Monroe, Pa. They will both leave next Monday to attend the convention of the State Educational Association at Scranton.

COSTS MORE TO DIE

Liverymen Raise Price of Funeral Cabs From $4 to $5.

The consumer is going to pay for compensation insurance. Since employers found out the cost of insuring their employes this fact has been evident but the first definite announcement to that effect came from two local livery stables in a letter to undertakers announcing that after January 1 the price of funeral cabs would be advanced from $4 to $5 each.

The liverymen set forth that the cost of compensation insurance, together with the increased cost of feed and other things, has made this advance necessary. The general public will have to pay. The advance applies only to Connellsville, for the rate for cabs to out-of-town funerals has always been $5 with the exception of to Mount Olive cemetery which was $4.50.

This is the first definite announcement but it is understood that there are other schemes to get back the money paid out for compensation insurance under consideration. One of these will be discussed by the Fayette-Westmoreland-Allegheny laundry men when they meet in Connellsville next month. It has been announced in some places that a tax of one cent for each bundle of laundry will be made in 1916. So far the Connellsville Steam Laundry has not decided that this will be necessary here.

MANUFACTURERS SAVE MILLIONS

Manning's Report Shows Mine Bureau's Activity.

Industrial achievements by American manufacturers since the outbreak of the European war are recounted in detail in the annual report of the Bureau of Mines issued by Director Manning. The report tells what the bureau is doing to aid in development of mineral industries by suggesting new and better methods of manufacture, by stopping the waste of valuable mineral resources, and by suggesting uses for material thought of no value. It says manufacturers already are saving millions of dollars by use of waste material, and that new industries have been created to manufacture what was formerly imported.

Development of the coal tar dye industry, discovery of a new process for reducing radium and devising of a practical scheme for drilling natural gas wells by which waste is prevented are described in detail.

Injured by Colts.

Arthur Livingstone of Smock is confined to his home with several fractured ribs, suffered when he was squeezed between two colts, which became frightened when he was leading them to the watering trough.

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MEASLES IN THE SECOND WARD; 30 HOMES PLACARDED

Few of the Patients Have Been Placed Under Physicians' Care.

THIRTEEN IN DUTCH BOTTOM

School Authorities Hope That the Danger of Spread Will be Over by the Time the Rooms Take Up Their Work After Christmas Vacation.

There are 30 houses in the city quarantined for measles, according to the records of Health Officer George Hetzel. Most of these cases are in the Second ward and few of them were reported by physicians for the reason that no physicians were in attendance.

The 30 houses under quarantine do not represent the number of cases, however, for in some homes three and four children are ill and there is reason to believe that many cases either go unattended or are not reported by physicians.

About a week ago, Health Officer George Hetzel discovered 13 cases in the Dutch Bottom district, none of which had been under the care of a physician. These he quarantined and directed the parents to secure medical attention. Yesterday the health officer discovered seven more cases in this section, none of them under a physician's care. He left on another tour of inspection this morning.

The schools started on a two weeks' vacation yesterday. In that period it is hoped to wipe out the disease as it is in school that the infection is spread. Measles is very dangerous, physicians declare, as the patient may be afflicted permanently after recovery with some aftermath of the disease.

Cases reported Friday follow:

Walter H. Johnston, 8 years, son of Harris Johnston, colored.

Stella Andursky, 7 years, daughter of Mrs. Catherine Andursky, 408 Connell avenue.

Carl Molinari, 8 years, son of Lewis Molinari, 603 West Gibson avenue.

Paul Sandusky, 20 months, son of August Sandusky, 414 Connell avenue.

Mary Medvic, 8 years, daughter of John Medvic, 316 Connell avenue.

Robert Lohr, 3 years, son of John Lohr, 511 York avenue.

Joseph Craverella, 6 months, son of Mike Craverella, 509 Gibson avenue.

Josephine Vanosdein, 6 years, daughter of J. H. Vanosdein, 514 Cummings avenue.

In the last seven families there are a total of 14 children, according to the reports to the health department.

Seven more cases of measles were reported to the Board of Health Monday, two by physicians and five through the investigations of Health Officer Hetzel. The patients are:

Paul Yocum, two years, son of W. J. Yocum of Blackstone lane. This house is already quarantined for diphtheria.

Virginia DeRoache, 10 years old, daughter of M. DeRoache of 107 West Gibson avenue.

Andy Johns, 7 years old, son of Anthony Johns of 507 West Gibson avenue.

Frank Macoma, 7 years old, son of Joseph Macoma, 344 Witter avenue.

William Constantine, 7 years old, son of Joseph Constantine of 344 Arch street.

William Karney, 10 years old, son of M. J. Karney of 348 Witter avenue.

There are 11 other children attending school in these homes.

HIGHWAY NEWS

State Department's Publication Tells of Work on Roads.

The November issue of "Pennsylvania Highway News," the official bulletin of the State Highway Department, has just been issued.

The bulletin, which in reality is a magazine of highway news and development in Pennsylvania, is a 38-page document filled with instructive statistical and informatory news. The present issue is number 6 of volume 1 and concludes the first volume of the bulletin.

The issue is freely illustrated and contains a number of readable articles An innovation is the introduction of an editorial page.

The leading article is an account of the automobile tour over the state highways taken by Governor Brumbaugh and his invited guests in October. This is followed by an illustrated article on the model concrete road being constructed by the department between Easton and Allentown.

The address, delivered by W. D. Uhler, chief engineer of the department, at the Pan-American Road Congress at Oakland, California, in September, is reprinted. George H. Biles, second deputy state highway commissioner, in charge of the maintenance work of the department, contributes an illustrated article on the repair of brick pavements. Willis Whited, the bridge engineer of the department, contributes an article on bridge washouts.

The balance of the issue is taken up with statistical information concerning the bureau of Township Highways, construction reports, legal opinions, press comment and news and comment on the work of the district engineers as well as statistical information concerning the automobile division.

Licensed to Wed.

Alonza Rankin and Sybil Lytle, both of Grays Landing; Leslie Campbell of Gans, Mollie Robinson of Smithfield; Ewing Glover of Somerfield, Elizabeth Workman of Markleysburg; Albert Hawk of Vanderbilt, Ada B. Nicola of Broad Ford, were granted marriage licenses in Uniontown yesterday.

If you have coal land for sale advertise it in The Weekly Courier.

CITY COUNCIL TO INSPECT THE NEWLY PAVED STREETS

Will Pass on Contracts Before End of Year; One More Meeting is Yet to be Held.

The present council will meet before the close of the year to inspect street improvement work done during the year. A resolution introduced at the special meeting last night calls upon council to convene at the call of T. J. Hooper, superintendent of streets, and pass upon the work.

Paving was done this year on Cottage and Murphy avenues; Morrell avenue; North Pittsburg street, South Pittsburg street; Cottage avenue, and the repaving of portions of Pittsburg street is in progress The city engineer is to make estimates of the cost of the improvements and submit them prior to the inspection.

Council's meeting last night was a short one, called merely for the purpose of passing several ordinances. Mayor Mariotta and Councilman John Duggan were absent.

Superintendent of Accounts John L. Gans reported that he had in preparation the financial statement which is required at the end of each year and recommended that another meeting be held on Friday night, December 31. This will be the last meeting in which Messrs Wright, Hooper and Gans will participate. Mayor Mariotta and Councilman Duggan hold over as members of the new council.

Ordinances transferring money from one appropriation to another; changing the form of the short term bonds for the paving of Wills road, East Apple street, Washington avenue and Isabella road, and defining the purpose of the improvement fund, were passed finally.

Mr. Gans reported that two old claims against the former borough had come to light, one from V. J. Clark for auto repair services, and the other from the Connellsville Water Company for changing the location of a fire hydrant. Clerk Bixler reported that the old council had torn up all statements of the water company for this latter claim, declaring that it would not be paid. Mr. Clark had promised to submit an itemized statement to council at this meeting, but had not done so.

WILD LIFE CLUB

Local Sportsmen to Buy Preserve in Fulton County.

An organization to be known as the Wild Life Hunters Club was organized Saturday night previous to a chicken and waffle supper given by H. J. Cupp at the Cupp Hotel in Water street for hunters who recently returned from a two weeks deer hunt in Fulton county. H. J. Cupp was elected president and H. M. Liston of Dunbar, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Liston and Mr. Cupp were appointed a committee to go to Fulton county and purchase 50 or 100 acres of ground on which the club will erect a cabin.

Following the business meeting a well appointed chicken and waffle supper was served. Artistic decorations were carried out. The room was attractively decorated with festoons of laurel caught with bows of red ribbons and at intervals on the walls were 15 large guns. The favors were cartridges. Covers were laid for Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Wagner, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Sibox, Mr. and Mrs. William Krampe, Mr. and Mrs. Cupp, all of town; Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Wagner, H. M. Liston, and T. E. Baker of Dunbar Following the supper the party attended the Globe Theatre. The club is open to other members, a limit to the membership having as yet not been decided

XMAS SEAL SALE LOW

Connellsville Falling Down on Its End of Charitable Work.

Connellsville is falling down on its end of the 100,000 Red Cross Xmas seal sale for Fayette county. This number was allotted to the county to be disposed of at the Christmas season to raise funds for the fight against tuberculosis. Dealers here say that the demand for the little stickers is light and from indications the 1915 sale will be less than 1914 when it was very small.

The Red Cross Seals cost but a penny each and every one sold is a bullet for the campaign against the Great White Plague. Money means preparedness in this war, for there is no possible chance of peace until the dreaded tuberculosis is conquered.

These stamps are on sale at the banks, book stores, drug stores and at other places. For those who want to purchase them it is easy to find a store where they are on sale. It has been suggested however, that the dealers display the Red Cross sale signs more conspicuously so that the public may be reminded to buy the seals.

Seals may be attached to the backs of letters and mail packages. Several banks are setting a good example by affixing the seals to all mail matter sent out.

TO DISCUSS INSURANCE.

School Board to Meet on 27th and Consider Compensation.

It will cost the Connellsville school district approximately $95 a year for compensation insurance, according to rough calculations. The board will hold a special meeting on Monday night, December 27 to consider the rates of insurance men, a number of whom have been invited to submit sample policies. The awarding of the insurance will be largely a matter of coverage as the rates are uniform.

On a basis of a payroll of $57,000 for teachers at six cents for each $100, the cost to insure teachers will be $33 a year and for janitors $59 on a basis of $6,000 payroll at 91 cents per $100.

BAIL JUMPER CAUGHT.

Daniel Walton Captured at Wilson by Railroad Officer.

Daniel Walton, Sr., indicted on a charge of receiving stolen goods, was caught at Wilson station, near McKeesport, by Special Officer M. F. Withero and is now in the county jail awaiting trial. He was arrested last June in connection with robberies of brass from the Baltimore & Ohio railroad and admitted to $300 bail by Alderman Fred Munk He disappeared shortly afterward, jumping his bail.

Walton's son, Daniel, Jr., was acquitted of the same charge at the term of court just ended.

FLOOD STAGE IS NEAR IN YOUGH; STREAMS SWELL

Two Days of Rain and a Warm Wind Cause Snow to Melt Quickly.

JACOBS CREEK ON A RAMPAGE

West Penn Trolley Traffic is Interrupted to Some Extent; Pittsburg Looks for Flood Stage in the Ohio; Cold Snap May Check the Rise.

Steady rains for the last two days, with summery temperature and warm winds wiped away the accumulation of snow in the mountains, swelling creeks and rivers to flood stages. The Yough was transformed fro ma quiet stream Friday morning to a 10-foot stage this morning and it was rising at the rate of a foot an hour. Its tributaries in the mountains were swelled to far above normal, overflowing their banks almost everywhere.

Little damage was caused, but the West Penn Railways Company suffered severe inconvenience at Swedetown on the main line to Mount Pleasant, the tracks being covered two feet deep for a distance of about 50 yards, making it impossible for cars to get through. Jacobs creek at that point always goes on a rampage in flood times making through traffic impossible. Cars are run as far as possible on each side of the flooded creek and passengers walk the railroad tracks across the intervening space.

Old timers figured on Saturday that the Yough was rising at a foot an hour. If the driftwood climes to the banks, they contend the stream is rising. When it starts to come down in midstream, the river has begun to recede, they declare.

The weather prediction for tonight and Sunday call for snow flurries and colder, with a possibility of fair weather on Sunday.

The rains did much damage throughout the city. In the Isabella road district the mud was at least a foot deep and residents of that section came down to the city this morning with glum faces and mud-spattered clothing.

Water diverted from Isabella road washed down the Baldwin avenue hollow wearing gullies several feet deep. The same is true in lesser degree on all of the hill street.

By the rising of Jacobs Creek this morning the flat of South Everson was covered with water, and a number of houses on that district were entirely surrounded by water, so that the families had to get around in boats. The water was within about three feet of the Pennsylvania railroad bridge at Everson at noon.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 18.—Heavy rains in the mountain districts of Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia prompted the prediction by the local weather bureau today that by tomorrow morning the Ohio river would pass 20 feet, the flood stage here.

Reports from Allegheny and Monongahela river points said those streams were rising rapidly, the Monongahela having reached the flood stage at Morgantown, W. Va., this morning.

UNION SUPPLY TREAT

Annual Distribution Will be Made on Christmas Morning.

The Union Supply Company has completed arrangements for their annual Christmas treat at every one of their sixty-three stores The treat will be given on Christmas morning, and old Santa Claus himself will hand it out to the children.

The occasion will be under the immediate supervision of the store manager in charge. He will be ably assisted by competent persons in handling the crowds. In case of inclement weather the children will be sheltered in the store buildings. Every provision possible is being made to avoid any accident.

The children of the different plants, for whom the treat is given, are very much interested and have great expectations. The Santa Claus annual visit is a time of great merriment and pleasure to them, and the handsome box of candy that he presents helps very much in making it a merry Christmas for them.

SETTLING CLARK ESTATE.

Salvation Army Gets Clothing and Household Effects.

The executors of the estate of Owen Clark, the Prospect street recluse who died several weeks ago, have turned over the household effects to Captain C. B. Harrison of the Salvation Army. He will use the clothing and foodstuffs for relief work among the poor and turn the books over to the Carnegie Library.

Mr. Clark bequeathed the interest on $1,000 and enough of the principal to make $50 as a yearly poor fund for use in Connellsville, but this will not be available until next year.

SEEKS HIS FREEDOM.

Henry Fusarini Asks for Release From Jail on Bail.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 18.—It is probable that Henry Fusarini, the Italian banker who was brought back from Chicago yesterday and placed in the county jail, will be released on bail today. A writ of habeas corpus was secured from Judge E. H. Heppert, and he will be brought before the court in order to have the amount of his bail determined.

Fusarini has been indicted by the grand jury for violations of the state banking laws, the charges having been preferred by State Banking Examiner McGlinchey.

Elope to Cumberland.

Anna Vishlusfsky and John Spittler, both of Connellsville, Frederick C. Warman of Uniontown and Stella Florence Mallory of Fairchance, eloped to Cumberland yesterday.

WILD LIFE LEAGUERS ARE URGED TO FEED THE QUAIL

Sportsmen Plan Systematic Feeding of Coveys Throughout the Winter.

Organizations of the Wild Life League of Pennsylvania in all parts of the State have been asked to cooperate with the Game Commission and the Boy Scouts in organizing a plan for systematic winter feeding of quail and wild turkeys throughout the State. Many league branches did this work in previous years, but no general plan has hitherto been devised. It is believed all of the 80 branches will get into action to save what are left of the native quail and turkeys.

The plan contemplates a census of the coveys of quail and their positive location, so that food can be shipped to the nearest points and then the formation of plans for systematic feeding during the severe weather and the construction of winter shelter where no natural cover exists.

It is estimated that more than 300 coveys of native quail have been marked for winter feeding by league organizations and it is hoped that this number will be doubled in the next two weeks. In some cases it may even be necessary to trap these birds and feed them all winter, releasing them in pairs next spring.

With these steps taken to preserve the native quail and with the probability that 10,000 quail from the highlands of Mexico will be available for planting, the league hopes to bring back the quail in many sections of the State. The call to its members asks that the bird census be made before January 1, and plans for systematic feeding of the birds be reported by that date.

In localities where the flocks of wild turkeys are shy of either gobblers or hens, the league will endeavor to restore a proper balance by liberating birds taken from other sections.

WORK IS COMPLETED

Contractor Dick Winds Up His Contract on Pittsburg Street.

Contractor J. I. Dick completed the paving on North Pittsburg street on Saturday evening and the section between North alley and Fayette street was opened to traffic after being closed about a week. The bricks were laid over half the stretch Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Though the weather was becoming colder, Contractor Dick went ahead and finished the street in the afternoon

Pittsburg street is now open its entire length and there is no more paving to be done on any part of it. The street has been paved between Pittsburg street and Crawford avenue, Orchard alley and the Pennsylvania railroad crossing and between North alley and Fayette street. The work was begun five weeks ago, and after being held up several times on account of the weather and failure of bricks to arrive when the base was ready for them. Contractor Dick is finishing in good time.

Work has now been started on Washington avenue, and also on East Apple street. It will be some time before the bricks are laid on these streets, as grading has to be done. The freezing weather makes the ground solid and it is with difficulty that the earth can be dug away to make a grade.

ANOTHER NEW FIREMAN.

Byron Rhodes Named When Charles Metzgar Submits Resignation.

Charles Metzgar has resigned as a member of the paid fire department and Byron Rhodes, a volunteer fireman, has been named as his successor by P. W. Wright, superintendent of public safety.

This is the second new man in the paid fire fighting force within a week. Former Chief John Haddock resigned and was succeeded by Peter O'Brien.

I Haven't Time.

Little Talks on Health and Hygiene by Samuel G. Dixon, M. D., LL. D., Commissioner of Health.

The season for good resolutions is approaching. Within a fortnight thousands of men and women will have resolved to begin the new year with a definite purpose of lopping off some bad habit or commencing some effort at self improvement.

Human happiness so largely depends upon health that many of these resolutions will center upon conditions relating to personal welfare. It is not so difficult in this age of self education to analyze our habits and discover where our weakness lie. Neither is it beyond the majority of us to plan a sensible course which if adhered to would bring about improvement. The task lies in adhering to the plans that we have made.

Perhaps the most common plea which we make to excuse failure to carry out our good intentions is the want of time. "I haven't time" has grown to be one of the commonest of phrases. There is no question about it this is a rapid age we live in. The possibilities for accomplishment are great, what we lack is time.

The man of business knows he needs more physical exercise and appreciates the fact that he feels the better for it but denies himself because he hasn't time. We lack time to eat properly, to think properly, to rest properly. Twenty-four hours seems too short a day for many of us and what is the result?

Continually pleading the lack of time we rush from one thing to another and in the end the aggregate of accomplishment is little enough to boast of.

Our clocks seem to be ticking at the rate of one hundred and twenty seconds to the minute but still the hour hand crawls at the same old pace. Unquestionably the majority of us would be happier and healthier if we cultivated repose. Tranquility is becoming a lost art and as a result disturbing nervous complaints are far more frequent than formerly.

The cultivation of composure need not mean a reduction in our ability to achieve results. It is almost certain to insure us time through application for many things which will make life better worth the living.

COMMUNITY NIGHT SCHOOL IS AIM OF SHOP WORKERS

Committee is Organized to Encourage Extension of Work Here.

TECHNICAL SUBJECTS TAUGHT

Classes Which Have Been Meeting in West Penn Building Will Move to Hight School After First of the Year; Opportunity for Workmen.

The community night classes for employed men will be extended in their scope through the co-operation of State College and the State Educational Department, working in conjunction with a committee of Connellsville men This committee is composed of S. P. Ashe, superintendent of schools; James McGrath of the Connellsville Machine & Car Company; C. W. Hays, of Hays, Porter & Company; G. E. Wagner, of the Connellsville Manufacturing & Mine Supply Company; E. V. Kaplan, G. R. Shields and T. R. Brenner of the West Penn. At a meeting held in the high school office on Thursday most of these men were present and the matter was thoroughly discussed.

It is the desire of the committee to have every employed man to enroll in one or more of the classes. They are open to everyone. Just now the classes are being held in the West Penn offices, but after the first of the year it is likely that a high school room will be utilized. Classes in shop arithmetic and in elementary electricity meet every Monday night and the class in shop sketching meets Tuesday night. They are well attended and the pupils are doing good work. It is planned to start classes among the men who are capable of taking advanced work in the near future.

The classes are made as practical and as interesting as possible. Through the instruction given, the students who have not had the benefit of technical training are versed in subjects of value to them in their daily work.

The committee in charge will take care of the financing of the schools in connection with the extension department on Pennsylvania State College.

"Any man with ambition can join, in fact they are urged to do so," was the statement of one of the leaders in the movement today. "Tell them it doesn't matter where they are employed, so long as they desire to better themselves."

ODD FELLOWS MEET

Past Grands' Association Gets Together at Tarr.

The Fayette and Westmoreland counties Past Grand Association of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows held an interesting session Saturday evening with Eudice Lodge 869, at Tarr. A feature of the meeting was the election of officers for the ensuing year.

J. W. Prinkey of Connellsville was re-elected president. Other officers were elected as follows C. E. Jackson of Lodge 251, Uniontown, first vice president; H. H. Weldin of Lodge 840, Greensburg second vice president; P. O. Anderson of Lodge 350, Mount Pleasant, re-elected secretary; C. S. Bryner of Lodge 251, Uniontown, and W. H. Crouthore of Lodge 869, Ruffsdale, assistant secretaries, Harry Ford of Lodge 365, Connellsville, treasurer. Past Grand P. O. Anderson, W. H. Crouthore and Harry Ford were appointed a committee to arrange for the first annual banquet to be held in February. The committee will submit a report at the next meeting to be held with West Newton Lodge 440, January 22.

Members spoke on "The Principles of Odd Fellowship," after which a social session was held. The association is one year old and is in a flourishing condition.

MINISTERS MEET

Week of Prayer to Precede Evangelistic Campaign.

At a meeting of the Ministerial Association held Monday morning at the Christian Church, plans relative to the Rob Jones revival to begin in February were discussed. It was arranged to have the personal workers, of which Rev. Wilbur Nelson is chairman, meet every Sunday afternoon in the United Presbyterian Church up until the opening of the campaign. The personal workers are composed of volunteers from the various churches, and when complete, the number is expected to reach 400.

It was decided to observe a week of prayer from January 3-8. Rev. J. S. Showers, Rev. J. L. Proudfit, and Rev. C. E. Wagner were appointed a committee to arrange the program. It was also decided to begin the shop meetings at once. The committee in charge is composed of Rev. W. J. Everhart, Rev. Conley and Rev. J. H. Lambertson.

On recommendation from Manager Melnardi of the Rob Jones revival, arrangements will be made to begin a series of cottage prayer meetings the first of the year and to continue them until the beginning of the campaign. The city has been divided into 65 districts, with committees appointed in each.

Ohiopyle Surprise Party.

A surprise party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Inks at Ohiopyle in honor of the former's fiftieth birthday. The evening was spent at various amusements and at a late hour refreshments were served. Mr. Inks received a number of gifts. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Ira Show, Mr. and Mr. William Corristan, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. William Glotfelty, Mr. and Mrs. William Rafferty, Mrs. J. R. Eney, Mrs. E. H. Kennedy, Mrs. Harry Holt, Miss Josephine Eney, Miss May Irene Eney.

Advertise in The Weekly Courier.

GIRL, ALONE IN HOME, DISCOVERS HOUSE IS AFIRE

Neighbors Call Fire Department, but Campbell's Loss is Serious; Sunday Blaze on West Side.

Barefoot and breathless, little Marion Campbell rushed into the home of R. J. Horton at 202 North Third street, West Side, about 9 o'clock Sunday morning, and when her cries were finally understood, it was learned that her home, adjoining that of Horton's, was on fire. Mr. Horton hurried to the scene and found flames shooting up the stairway. He telephoned for the fire department and the firemen spent an hour or more in extinguishing the stubborn blaze.

The girl was alone in the house when the fire started, her father, M. J. Campbell, a Baltimore & Ohio engineer, being on his run, and her mother and brother were at church. A loss of between $100 and $500 was caused to the building, which is owned by J. C. Munson and the Campbells suffered heavily from water and smoke, much of their furniture being ruined. They carried no insurance, though the building was covered.

The origin of the fire is a mystery. It apparently started among some clothing at the foot of the stairway. Marion Campbell, alarmed by the clouds of smoke, rushed frantically to the Horton home, which is in the other half of the house For a time Mr and Mrs. Horton could no understand her, but they finally realized that she was trying to tell them that the house was on fire While Mrs. Horton took her own children to another neighbor's, the girl disappeared It was thought that she had rushed back into the burning house, but she was discovered after some search in the pantry of the Horton home, which by that time was filled with smoke

The fireman found that the fire had gained considerable headway and it was only after an hour's hard work that they succeeded in extinguishing it. The Horton's side of the house was unharmed though filled with smoke.

Mr. Campbell is building a new home along Isabella road, which, however, will not be ready for occupancy for some time. Neighbors gave them shelter until they can remove some of the debris of the fire and make their present home hospitable.

OFFICERS ELECTED

Samuel A. Harris Heads the Union Farmers Club.

Samuel A. Harris of near Uniontown was elected president of the Union Farmers Club of Fayette County at the last meeting of the year held Saturday at the home of John Gilchrist near Uniontown. Other officers elected were: Vice president, A. C. Oglevee of near Leisenring No. 1; secretary, T. E. Arnold of Vanderbilt; corresponding secretary, John T. Smith of Dunbar; and treasurer, T. H. Smith of Dunbar.

The meeting was in session the greater part of the day and at noon dinner was served by Mrs Gilchrist. Benefits derived from the club were discussed and a musical and literary program was rendered. The program for the ensuing year were discussed. A representative gathering of farmers and their wives attended.

PASTOR QUITS

Greensburg Minister Declares He Will Not be Bossed.

In tendering his resignation as pastor of the First United Brethren Church at Greensburg states that he would rather serve the humblest flock in the poorest church in the world with freedom to preach his convictions than to shrivel his soul by failure to preach what he feels is the truth, even for a handsome income.

"I shall not fight individuals in order to maintain my position," said the divine. "I refuse to be an ecclesiastical hireling. I will not lower my standards of the Christian ministry for pay. I will not preach meaningless vaporing and glittering generalities when living bread is to be administered in God's name to the souls of hungry and perishing men."

Woman's Hip Fractured.

Mrs. W. G. Thomas of Scottdale, who has been confined to her home with a fractured hip expects to be able to sit up Christmas. Mrs Thomas with her daughters was going down street and a short distance from her home slipped and fell. C. E. Thomas of this city is a son.

Fusarini Brought Back.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 17.—Henry Fusarini, the Italian banker of this city who was indicted by the grand jury last week on charges of violating the state banking laws, was arrested in Chicago by County Detective John J. Smith. He was brought back to Uniontown today.

SOMERSET LEADS

Two Towns Have Rest Rooms For Benefit of Women.

Two towns up in Somerset county, Berlin and Meyersdale, are debating through their newspapers as to which was the first to open a rest room for women. No matter which was the pioneer, it is apparent that both are ahead of towns and cities in Fayette county where such a thing as a rest room is unknown.

A centrally located room where out-of-town women may rest a while after making the rounds of the stores, equipped with toilet conveniences, has been advocated from time to time but never with any results. Even the local stores do not have rooms set aside for this purpose. The West Penn waiting room is the nearest approach to a room of this kind but this is maintained merely for short waits between cars and it is for both men and women.

It has been suggested that the W. C. T. U. or other women's organizations take steps in this direction.

Scottdale Man Ill.

For the first time in years H. D. Jarrett, one of the best known residents of Scottdale, is confined to his home on account of illness. For the past two weeks Mr. Jarrett has been suffering from neuritis.

Attorney-at-Law.

GEORGE M. HOSACK, ATTORNEY-at-law. Office, Suite 1109 Park Building, Pittsburg, Pa. Telephone 1942.

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All Diseases Treated Successfully.

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Relief—

Are you subject to troubles of the stomach, liver or bowels, in the form of indigestion, constipation or dispepsia?

If so, we can help you and are willing to demonstrate the value of our tablets to you absolutely

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of all charges On request we will send you a two-weeks' treatment.

PEERLESS MEDICINE CO., P. O. Box 11, Brooklyn, N. Y.

GIVE MONEY

Savings accounts to the children. You can start them with $1.

A checking account or certificate of deposit to the wife.

A gold piece to your grown son or daughter.

In whatever form you may wish to give money, this old, reliable bank will be glad to serve you.

Liberal interest on savings—Small checking accounts welcome.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

"The Bank That Does Things For You."
120 W. Main St., Connellsville.

Safe Deposit Boxes for Rent.

YOUGH TRUST COMPANY,
CONNELLSVILLE, PA.

Capital.....$ 200,000.00

Surplus and Profits..... 15,000.00
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FOUR PER CENT. PAID ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.

An Ideal Present

There is nothing you can think of that would make a better present this Christmas for your children than bank accounts with us—and teach them the important habits of economy and thrift.

4% Interest Paid On Savings Accounts.

UNION NATIONAL BANK,
WEST SIDE CONNELLSVILLE, PA.

FARM PRODUCE IS EXHIBITED AT UNIONTOWN

First Display in the County is Pronounced a Big Success.

STAGED BY THE FARM AGENT

P. E. Dougherty Arouses Much Interest Among Farmers; Washington County Man Arranges the Display, Which is Attracting Many Visitors.

The first annual farm produce exhibit ever held in Fayette county is in progress at this time, having started at Uniontown yesterday. The entries consist of 200 different exhibits of all kinds of produce, the largest number of exhibits being 73 plates of apples and 56, 10-ear exhibits of corn. The placing of the exhibits was done by J. M. McKee, farm agent of Washington county, and carried on in a remarkable way. Mr. McKee was assisted by H. Lackey, a miller of 30 years practical experience, in placing the wheat, rye and oats. Mr. McKee stated that this exhibit was a big success considering it was the first of its sort ever held in the county. He highly commended the people who exhibited wheat, in its quality and also uniformity to type, stating the exhibit of wheat at this show was the best he had ever witnessed in Pennsylvania.

In the corn classes, especially yellow corn, the placing was very close. The first four samples was of such that would give them good entrance in the state show. Taking the exhibit as a whole, it is enough to convince many people of the county that crops of high merit for most purposes, can be grown in Fayette county, just the same as in other counties of the state.

The exhibit will be open daily from 8.30 A. M. to 6.00 P. M. No admission is charged. It has been singed by Farm Agent P. E. Dougherty and reflects great credit upon his work in the county the past year. The list of entries and prize winners follows:

Red Wheat.—John W. Jeffries, Uniontown, first; A. L. Fretz, Uniontown, second; William Phillips, Uniontown, third; L. D. Woodill, Smithfield; J. O. Strickler, Smock; W. M. Thompson, Uniontown, I. N. Christopher & Son, East Millsboro; I. N. Christopher & Son, East Millsboro; L. B. Wiggins, Uniontown; H. C. Frick Coke Company, Uniontown; J. J. Harris, Uniontown; S. H. Lenhart, New Salem; Thomas Finlay, New Salem; Frank J. Martin, Masontown.

White wheat.—William H. Cooke, Uniontown, first.

Spring wheat.—S. H. Lenhart, New Salem, third.

Rye.—Joseph K. Acklin, Brownsville, first; H. C. Frick Coke Company, Uniontown, second Frank J. Martin, Masontown, third; Fayette County Home, Uniontown; J. J. Harris, Uniontown.

Buckwheat.—J. P. Gleason, Elliotsville, first; J. J. Harris, Uniontown, J. P. Gleason, Elliotsville.

Oats.—T. W. Gans, Gans Station, first; Henry S. Cooke, Smock, second; A. L. Fretz, Uniontown, third; J. O. Strickler, Smock; J. J. Harris, Uniontown; Frank J. Martin, Masontown; Otto Houston, Uniontown; J. S. Langley, Uniontown.

Yellow Corn.—Porter Bros., East Millsboro, first; N. E. Porter, Brownsville, second; T. W. Gans, Gans Station, third; J. O. Strickler, Smock; W. M. Thompson, Uniontown; Porter Bros., East Millsboro; H. C. Frick Coke Company, Uniontown; H. C. Frick Coke Company, Uniontown; J. J. Harris, Uniontown; J. J. Harris Uniontown; W. H. Blaney, Smock; Wm. Phillips, Uniontown; J. H. Rittenhouse, Smock; W. B. Swearingen, Uniontown; T. W. Gans, Gans Station; John M. Crow, McClellandtown; John M. Crow, McClellandtown; C. W. Vance, Uniontown; P. W. Luce, Smock; S. R. Walters, Uniontown; E. H. Arnold, Vanderbilt; N. E. Porter, Brownsville; G. M. Griffin, Cheat Haven; Iden Vail, McClellandtown; J. S. Cunnigham, Uniontown; James K. Shoaf, Smithfield; J. K. Ritenour, Uniontown; W. F. Umbel, Uniontown; Norval Galloway, Uniontown; A. L. Fretz, Uniontown; J. S. Langley, Uniontown; E. C. Ricks, Uniontown, J. A. Bryson, Uniontown; S. W. Dunn, Vanderbilt; Samuel Morris, McClellandtown; J. B. Cunningham, Dawson; S. S. Shallenberger, Dawson, Adam Zorn, Dawson.

White Cap Corn.—Lacey E. Dearth, Uniontown, first; A. L. Fretz, Uniontown, second; John W. Jeffries, Uniontown, third; W. M. Thompson, Uniontown; I. B. Wiggins, Uniontown; Fayette County Home, Uniontown; G. W. Baker, Cheat Haven; M. H. Cuppett, Uniontown; W. H. Cooke, Tippecanoe; Frank Macco, Tippecanoe; Thomas Finlay, New Salem; John S. Langley, Uniontown; N. O. Phillips, New Salem; S. W. Dunn, Vanderbilt.

Mountain Corn.—Thomas McCartney, Farmington, first; C. H. Seaton, Chalk Hill, second; J. P. Gleason, Elliotsville, third.

Silage Corn.—G. W. Baker, Cehat Haven, first.

Apples.—R. R. Robinson, Smithfield, four varieties, first; J. J. Harris, Uniontown, 10 varieties, second; L. C. Harris, Perryopolis, 16 varieties, third; Mrs. T. B. Graham, Haddenville, 15 varieties; R. A. Linden, Vanderbilt, 3 varieties; M. A. Kiefer, Uniontown, 4 varieties; W. M. Thompson, Uniontown, 9 varieties; W. H. Blaney, Smock, 3 varieties; J. H. Horner, East Millsboro, 3 varetes; J. H. Rittenhouse, Smock, 4 varetes; Iden Val, McClellandtown, 1 varety; N. B. Custead, Oliphant Furnace, 1 variety.

Greatest Variety of Apples.—L. C. Harris, Perryopolis, first; Mrs. T. B. Graham, Haddenville, second; J. J. Harris, Uniontown, third.

Pears.—J. J. Harris, Uniontown, first.

Potatoes.—W. M. Thompson, Uniontown, first; W. M. Lardin, Masontown, second; B. R. Lardin, Masontown, third; M. A. McCormick, Fairchance; M. A. McCormick, Fairhance; Albert Gaddis, Uniontown; I. B. Wiggins, Uniontown; W. M. Thompson, Uniontown; L. E. Dearth, Uniontown; D. W. Powell, Uniontown; D. W. Powell, Uniontown; W. V. Reed, Uniontown; W. V. Reed, Uniontown; Thomas Finlay, New Salem; W. B. Swearingen, Uniontown; W. B. Swearingen, Uniontown; T. W. Gans, Gans Station; T. W. Gans, Gans Station; S. R. Walters, Uniontown; E. E. Arnold, Vanderbilt; John W. Jeffries, Uniontown; John W. Jeffries, Uniontown; C. H. Seaton, Chalk Hill; C. W. Porter, East Millsboro; C. W. Porter, East Millsboro; C. W. Porter, East Millsboro; Mrs. T. B. Graham, Haddenville.

Squashes.—M. B. Daniels, Uniontown, first; J. S. Cunningham, Uniontown, second; Adam Zorn, Dawson, third; Fayette County Home, Uniontown; Otto Houston, Uniontown; J. S. Cunningham, Uniontown; Norval Galloway, Uniontown; Norval Galloway, Uniontown; Mrs. T. B. Graham, Haddenville; J. B. Cunningham, Dawson.

Largest Pumpkin.—J. S. Cunningham, Uniontown, first; Clinton Hughes, Uledi, second; Norval Galloway, Uniontown, third; M. B. Daniels, Uniontown; W. B. Swearingen, Uniontown; J. S. Cunnigham, Uniontown; J. S. Cunnigham, Uniontown; J. B. Cunningham, Dawson.

Onions.—W. M. Burchinal, Gans, first; W. M. Burchinal, Gans, second; T. H. Smith, Dunbar, third; M. H. Cuppett, Uniontown.

Bunch Beets.—Mrs. T. B. Graham, Haddenville, first; S. H. Lenhart, New Salem, second; Fayette County Home, Uniontown, third.

Celery.—M. A. McCormick, Fairchance, first.

Cabbage.—Adam Zorn, Dawson, first; Fayette County Home, Uniontown, second.

Soy Beans.—W. E. Rankin, Uniontown, first.

Soudan Grass.—N. E. Curstead, Oliphant Furnace, first.

Carrots.—M. B. Daniels, Uniontown, first; Mrs. T. B. Graham, Haddenville, second.

Turnips.—J. P. Gleason, Elliotsville, first; J. B. Cunningham, Dawson, second.

Pop Corn.—E. E. Arnold, Vanderbilt, first; M. A. McCormick, Fairchance, second; S. W. Jones, Uniontown, third; J. B. Cunningham, Dawson.

Parsnips.—S. H. Lenhart, New Salem, first.

Barley.—H. C. Frick Coke Company, Uniontown.

Eggs.—J. W. Jeffries, Uniontown, first.

WEST PENN IS INCREASING ITS COAL STORAGE CAPACITY

Connection With the Pennsylvania Being Installed; Track Room for 100 Loaded Cars.

For the purpose of increasing facilities for getting coal to the West Penn power house, a new siding is being constructed from the Pennsylvania railroad at a point near the old Keystone Tube works at Herd Bottom to the storage tracks at the plant. It is partly completed and will be ready for use soon after the beginning of the year.

This will give the West Penn a connection with the Pennsylvania through which coal may be shipped to its power plant, now being improved and enlarged to the extent of $1,000,000.

There are storage tracks at the power house now for 32 loaded and 22 empty coal cars. When the new siding is completed the company expects to have room for 100 loaded cars of coal. The consumption of coal at the enlarged power plant will be so big an item that it will be imperative to have many cars in storage at all times for daily use and emergency purposes.

DR. ROBERTS PRESIDENT

Vanderbilt Man Heads County School Directors Association.

Dr. George E. Roberts of Vanderbilt was elected president of the Fayette County School Directors Association at its meeting in Uniontown on Thursday. Dr. H. J. Bell of Dawson was chosen one of the delegates to the state directors convention and C. B. Franks of Dunbar township an alternate. Other officers follow:

Vice president, E. N. Lockard of Point Marion; secretary, Charles R. McIntyre, Fairchance; assistant secretary, J. W. Miller, Jefferson township; treasurer, W. A. Edmiston, Brownsville. Delegates were elected as follows:

State directors convention—Regular, Frank Rush, Wharton township, W. C. McKean, Uniontown, Dr. J. H. Sangston, German township; Dr. H. J. Bell, Dawson, with E. C. Cornish, Uniontown; R. T. Gribble, Fairchance; C. B. Franks, Leisenring, and A. M. Thomas, Henry Clay, as alternates.

State teachers convention—Charles Harbison, Masontown, George L. Moore, South Brownsville; Edward Brakewell, Washington township, and L. R. Lackey, North Union township.

BONDS ARE FILED

New County Officers Are Preparing to Take Hold.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 17.—Bonds were filed in the office of Recorder of Deeds George C. Steele today of three newly elected county officials, who take office the first Monday of January. County Treasurer-elect George Orval Rush filed bonds for $280,000, with the Fayette Title & Trust Company as the surety. Register of Wills-elect Henry R. Titterington filed bonds for $48,000, with the Fayette Title & Trust Company as surety.

County Commissioner Charles H. Nutt, who begins his second term at the first of the new year, filed a bond for $10,000 with Patrick Reagan and Wallace Miller as sureties. The bonds of Sheriff-elect Thomas L. Howard and Controller Harry Kisinger were filed previously.

BIG CROP FORECAST.

Will be Smaller Than This Year, But Ahead of Average.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Next year's winter wheat crop was estimated today by the Department of Agriculture at about 540 million bushels.

That would be 115 million bushels less than the winter wheat harvest this season, but approximately 100 million bushels more than the five year average, 1909-1913.

RESTAURANT MAN IS CONVICTED ON THE CHARGE OF A GIRL

Found Guilty of Improper Conduct Toward His Waitress.

CRIMINAL COURT IS AT AN END

December Term Comes to a Close and the Veniremen are Discharged; Cases Against James A. Gafney, West Penn Man, Go to Next Term.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 16.—G. Elentari, a Neapolitan restauranteur of Peach street, Connellsville, was convicted before Judge J. Q. Van Swearingen in criminal court today on a serious charge. He was accused of having made an attack upon Leona Franks, 13 years old, in a room in his restaurant on Sunday morning, November 28.

The girl testified that she met Elentari in Masontown on the 27th of November and he asked her to go to Connellsville to work for him. She testified that she told him that she had no money and he gave her $1 for transportation. She went to the restaurant that evening, and on the following morning she said that the restauranteur attacked her. She testified that she then left the restaurant and went to Scottdale, where she got her dinner and returned to Connellsville at 2 o'clock. She said that she met Inez Nicholson in front of the city hall in Connellsville and told him that she had no place to stay and was directed to the home of Emmett Sipe. The little girl told of having remained at the Sipe home for three days.

Leona Franks on cross-examination said that she had run away from home on a previous occasion and had gone from Masontown to Connellsville. She said at that time she and Pauline Leslie had stayed at a Slavish restaurant and then went to the home of Jennie Scott, who resided near the home of Emmett Sipe. Elentari was convicted of an offense against morality, but acquitted of a statutory count.

After a conference between attorneys Elentari was arraigned for sentence. The court sentenced him to pay the costs and $20 fine.

Harvey Jordan charged with breaking into the shanty of Austin & Matthews, the paving contractors, on Willis road, Connellsville, was found guilty and sentenced to pay the costs and serve six months in the workhouse. Jordan was accused of stealing the personal effects of five men.

Clarence Ford, convicted of forging a check on A. C. Pouch of Uniontown, was sentenced to the Huntingdon reformatory.

Court adjourned this afternoon until next Tuesday morning.

Harry Moore of Uniontown, who was convicted before Judge E. H. Reppert of larceny of an automobile light, was sentenced to the Pennsylvania Industrial Reformatory at Huntingdon.

Steve Stanich, found guilty of absconding from a boarding house, was sentenced by Judge Reppert to pay the costs.

Delmo Abraham, tried yesterday for larceny by bailee, was found not guilty in a verdict returned before Judge Reppert this forenoon. She was accused of keeping $15 which belonged to Paul Halkovich at Fairbanks.

The December term of criminal court closed today and the veniremen for petit jury service were excused from further duty. The trial of James A. Gafney, electric light superintendent in Brownsville, was continued to the next term of court. His father-in-law was buried yesterday.

M. Behoskey of Oliver No. 1 was convicted yesterday before Judge Van Swearingen of forgery on charge of the W. J. Rainey store officials at Elm Grove. He is said to have received goods worth $314 on orders amounting to only $59. The Rainey store checks are printed with numerals from 1 to 500 and as the holder makes purchases the clerks punch out the amount. It was charged that Behoskey would make purchases and then fill up the holes punched out by the clerks, using a punch he had shaped from a nail. He was also charged with having changed the serial numbers of several of the checks. Behoskey was arrested at Oliver No. 1, where he had moved recently. In his possession were found punches a large number of store checks and a silver vanity case containing parts of checks.

A CHRISTMAS WARNING

State Fire Marshal Urges Caution to Prevent Bad Fires.

State Fire Marshal Joseph L. Baldwin has issued a special bulletin urging that extreme care be taken to prevent fires during the Christmas season. Caution in the handling of Christmas tree decorations which are usually highly inflammable is one of the means of prevention cited.

Candles as a means of illuminating Christmas trees cause many fires, the state official declares, and electric light systems are now so reasonable that almost any family arranging an elaborate Christmas tree can afford to have them. Paper or cotton made to represent snow or moss, or toys requiring gasoline or oil to operate, are given as probable causes of dangerous fires.

VACATIONS GRANTED.

Western Union Employes Will Get Two Weeks on Pay.

Announcement has been made that after January 1, employes of the Western Union Telegraph Company, including messenger boys, will be granted two weeks vacation a year with pay. This affects only employes who have been in the service two years. Those who have served a year only will be allowed one week's vacation.

There are about 75,000 persons in the employ of the telegraph company, and the innovation will mean the expenditure of thousands of dollars.

NEGOTIATIONS ARE STILL ON TO GET NEW PLANTS HERE

Business Men Investigating Steel Mill and Coupler Factory; Say Prospects Are Good.

Negotiations between business men of the city and representatives of two industrial plants which have expressed a desire to locate here are continuing quietly and there is still hope of landing at least one of them for Connellsville.

The committee of local men appointed to investigate the steel plant, whose representatives addressed a public meeting here about a month ago, met members of the firm in Pittsburg last week. They went into the matter thoroughly, but have made no report as yet of their findings. The board of directors of this firm is to hold a meeting in Cincinnati in the near future, at which time action on a new site will be taken. It is stated authoritatively that Connellsville as a location appeals favorably to them. If the concern decides to offer Connellsville a definite proposition, it will be put up to the town for action. It is certain that a free site and stock subscription will be asked.

The International Couplers Company has closed its exhibit here and returned to Pittsburg. The representatives of this firm also put a proposition to locate a factory here up to the business men and this is also being investigated. Their proposal was definite—$50,000 and a free site. Local men, however, wanted to see the patent rights the company was declared to own and also to be given some assurances that railroads would adopt the White patent couplers in sufficient quantities to make the manufacture of them profitable. Railroad men here, it is said, have sufficient faith in the device to purchase considerable of the stock.

An account of the company's proposition in The Courier one day last week brought five separate offers from cities desiring new industries. Newport News, Va., came forward with an especially good offer. T. C. Van Epps, one of the demonstrators of the invention, stated that the company was sincere in its offer to locate here but thought that Connellsville residents might have acted more expeditiously in the matter.

LEAVES BIG ESTATE

Holdings of C. J. McCormick Are Valued at $106,327.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 18.—According to the inventories and appraisements which have just been filed in the office of Register of Wills Charles O. Schroyer, C. J. McCormick, who died in Uniontown a short time ago, left personal property valued at $106,327-71. The greater part of this personal estate is made up of coal stocks. He owned 1,320 shares of stock in the Weizel Coal & Coke Company, which is appraised at $52,800, and 643 shares in the Wheeling Coal & Coke Company, appraised at $22,505.

Hugh L. Rankin, who recently died in Philadelphia and was buried here, left personal property valued at $182,032.61 according to the appraisement. The appraisers in the Rankin estate were E. E. Strickler and H. J. Arnett, and William G. Laidley and George S. Harrah were the appraisers in the McCormick estate.

Other inventories and appraisements of personal property which have been filed include:

Estate of Hannah Powell, Menallen township, $3,179.43; Sarah A. Miller, Georges township, $78.90. Jane Agnes Coyle, Upper Tyrone township, $793.47; Mary Boden, Bellevernon, $183.38; Joseph Ogleyee, Dunbar township, $16,300. Annie M. Cochran, Nicholson township, $413.75; Lenora C. Newkirk, Bellevernon, $3,600.70; John King, New Salem, $1,653.55.

LINEMAN ELECTROCUTED

West Penn Man Meets Death on Pole Near West Newton.

A report on Thursday that T. A. Burley, a Bell telephone lineman of Connellsville, had been electrocuted at West Newton proved unfounded the victim of the accident being Harry McHenry, 27, son of Squire McHenry of West Newton, a West Penn lineman. The latter was working not far away from where Mr. Burley was when he slipped and fell, landing upon a high tension wire.

McHenry was working on top of a West Penn pole. While no one saw the accident it is believed he missed his footing and fell to the heavily charged wire some distance below. Life was extinct and the body was found to be badly burned when recovered by other linemen. A physician worked over the body for over an hour but to no avail.

INVENTS NEW PLOW

Somerset County Man's Device May Revolutionize Farming.

A reciprocating plow invented by Earle G. Klimmel, of near Stoyestown, Somerset county, promises to revolutionize farming, according to those who have seen it in operation. Instead of being dragged through the earth with a constant pull, the new plow is driven backward and forward by a crank shaft similar to that attached to the piston rod of a steam engine.

A two-horse team, it is claimed, pulls the four-gang Klimmel reciprocating machine with ease and four furrows are turned and pulverized at the same time. A small gasoline engine provides the power. The reciprocating movement of the plow reduces the strain on the horses materially.

OFFICERS INSTALLED.

King Solomon Lodge, F. & A. M. Has Interesting Meeting.

New officers of King Solomon Lodge, F. & A. M., were installed last week in the presence of a large number of members and visitors from Scottdale, Dunbar and Dawson. Deputy Grand Master John M. Core of Uniontown was present.

A social session followed in the banquet room of the temple. The was featured by several readings by W. H. Seawright of the high school faculty.

If you have coal land for sale advertise it in The Weekly Courier.

DILLINGER AND O'NEIL TALK OF CLEAN POLITICS

Allegheny County Pair Also Boost the Coming Evangelistic Meeting.

DOCTOR SINGS RAG TIME HYMN

J. Denny, Recently Beaten for the Allegheny Commissionership Denies That He is Out of the Running, but Councilman Sees Retirement Near.

Declaring that 40 per cent of the electors who do not vote are preachers and churchmen who could be depended upon to vote right, J. Denny O'Neil of McKeesport, commissioner of Allegheny county, urged the men who heard him in the union prayer meeting last week to take a stand for right things. Political experience, he said, has taught him that the churchmen cannot be depended upon to get out on election day and vote for the men who stand for clean politics, while the opposition has men who are not only willing to vote once, but twice or three times.

Mr. O'Neil said that at one time in Allegheny county 60,000 men signed a petition urging that no liquor licenses be granted, but when it came to an election where the candidates stood for and against this issue, only 14,000 of these same men took the trouble to cast a ballot. "The man who doesn't vote is not a good citizen," he declared.

The speaker declared that since he hit the trail at the Billy Sunday meetings in McKeesport and took his stand against the liquor interests he had been opposed and harrassed at all times. Notwithstanding this, business in his store at McKeesport, he declared, increased.

Referring to his recent defeat for county commissioner in Allegheny, Mr. O'Neil declared, "If the saloonkeepers go lying and slandering me and even stuffing the ballot box think that they can beat me, they don't know how much Irish there is in me.

Dr. G. A. Dillinger, Pittsburg city councilman, followed Mr. O'Neil. He preceeded his talk by singing a new Billy Sunday song which he characterized as the "best rag-time hymn I ever heard in my life."

Dr. Dillinger told the men that they would have to get more "pep" into their church work. "When I make a political speech," he said, "I don't get up on the platform and ask them to give me a chance, that I think I would make a good officer. I get out on the edge of the platform and I punch my words into them. And I speak loud. I tell them I'm the only one that ought to be elected, and I get elected."

Referring to Mr. O'Neil's recent defeat Dr. Dillinger declared his companion had been relegated to the "lame duck club" and said that he supposed he would be a member too, in two more years. In the two remaining years of his term, however, he said, he proposed to stand for clean things in political life. One man can make it warm for a number of opponents, he declared, and intimated that he proposed to do so.

Both speakers declared that the coming Rob Jones evangelistic meetings should stir Connellsville and Fayette county as it was never stirred before and result in permanent good for the community.

The union meeting was held in the First Presbyterian Church, and it was attended by a congregation that filled the lower floor and a part of the balcony. Members of the ministerial association occupied places on the platform and took part in the service. Rev. C. U. Buckner presided. It was announced that the ministers will meet every Monday morning hereafter to discuss plans for the Rob Jones meetings. Rev. Wilbur Nelson will meet with the personal workers' class in the United Presbyterian Church on Sunday afternoon and every Sunday afternoon thereafter.

WANTS MORE PUBLICITY

Congressman Crago Opposes Secrecy in National Bank Receiverships.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Representative Crago of Waynesburg yesterday introduced in the House a bill aiming to improve the present situation as to national bank receiverships. The purpose of the measure which Mr. Crago desires to see passed is to give interested persons an opportunity to learn something as to the condition of a bank which has been placed in the hands of a receiver. Under the present laws it is virtually impossible for those who have a right to know, to ascertain any facts as to the condition of affairs in the bank under receivership.

Mr. Crago's bill was referred for consideration to the committee on banking and currency. Representative Keister of Scottdale is a member of this committee.

The bill would require receivers for national banks to file accounts in the district court in which the bank is located, and these accounts could be examined by any one. Furthermore, any person or corporation interested in the affairs of the bank, would be entitled to file exceptions to the receiver's account within 30 days after the filing of the account.

SCHOOL GIRL ELOPES

Smithfield Student Goes to Cumberland With Old Frame Youth.

Miss Pearl Vance, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Vance of Smithfield, and Walter Monaghan of Old Frame, eloped to Cumberland December 14 and were married by Rev. Ballanier, pastor of the Lutheran Church of that city. The bride was a member of the senior class of the Smithfield high school and the wedding was the culmination of a school romance.

The bridegroom is a clerk at the Dowood Supply Company at Dawood. Mr. and Mrs. Monaghan returned to Smithfield yesterday.

LIBRARY TRUSTEES ASK MORE MONEY OF CITY

Effort Will be Made to Have the Appropriation Increased to $3,000.

An effort will likely be made by the Carnegie Library Trustees to have the new council increase its library appropriation when the budget is made up early next year. Council now contributes $2,100 a year toward the support of the library and the school board sets aside $3,000, making a total of $5,100 for the maintenance of the institution. If council would raise its appropriation to equal that of the school board the library would be enabled to carry on much special educational work.

Last year the maintenance of the library cost $4,549.54 of which less than one tenth went for new books and the replacing of old ones. More than usual economy was practised last year because the payments of school board became long overdue.

Miss Margaret M. Whiteman, the librarian, stated today that the institution is restricted in its work because the amount of money appropriated is sufficient only for the upkeep of the building, the payment of officers and the purchase of a small number of new books. If more money were available, traveling libraries might be maintained in the various schools. These would do a good work among the pupils of buildings at some distance from the library. The students who live in the outskirts are not as likely to come to the library to look up references and secure books to read as those who live closer.

The wide circulation of the books in foreign languages recently loaned by the state indicates that the purchase of books for the use of foreign residents would be a good investment. The state will allow the library the use of its books for about six months.

STRAY DOE WANDERS INTO TOWN AND IS LOCKED UP

Will be Held at South Connellsville Until it Recovers From Its Lameness.

A doe which apparently had wandered away from the herd of deer in the mountains of Springfield township was captured by Constable Norval Morgan of South Connellsville last week and locked up in Brown's stable. It was discovered to be lame, so it will be kept penned up until it recovers and then taken back to the mountains.

The doe has been seen at various places on the South Side recently. On Sunday it came down to the pond at Soisson Park and watched the skaters.

The same animal went to the back door of the home of Fred C. Marker on Davidson avenue yesterday and his small son called the family to see the "funny dog."

Local sportsmen will see that the animal is cared for. The season for deer is closed for three years in Fayette county and this animal is one of a herd that has grown from those set out on the Buttermore farm in Springfield township about a year ago.

WANTS MAIL WEIGHED

Waynesburg Railroad Man Gets Little Satisfaction in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—W. D. Shull, superintendent of the Waynesburg & Washington railroad, has been here to consult with postoffice officials in regard to the weighing of mails, which has not been done since the inauguration of the parcel post.

Mr. Shull, it is understood, told the postoffice officials that there should be a weighing because of the difference which had been brought about by the parcel post. He received no assurance, however, as to what might be expected in this direction or as to when the request which he made might be granted.

TAX ON LAUNDRY.

Consumer Must Pay Cent a Bundle to Meet Compensation Cost.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 16.—Because of the workmen's compensation law enacted by the last Legislature and which will be effective January 1, next, the laundrymen of Allegheny county will exact a tax of one cent on every bundle of laundry delivered to their customers.

There is nothing in the law to provide for this measure, but the Allegheny County Laundrymen's Exchange has adopted a resolution covering the expense of carrying out the act and decided to "pass it on to the consumer."

No laundry will be delivered until it has been marked with a stamp.

ESCAPING GAS EXPLODES.

Beeson Joseph of Dickerson Run Slightly Burned; Two Escape.

Beeson Joseph was slightly burned about the face on Wednesday evening when escaping gas from a main exploded in the watchman's shanty at the south end of the Dawson bridge. Archie Smith and Isaac Bush, who were also in the shanty at the time, escaped by plunging through the open door at the first flash. Papers inside the building were partly burned. Mr. Bush was severely injured in an explosion two years ago.

Residents of that section say the main has been leaking for a year or more. Employes of the gas company were trying to locate it yesterday.

HAS PRIZE HEN.

J. H. Henderson's Exhibits Champion White Orpington.

J. H. Henderson of Connellsville yesterday exhibited what was termed the champion hen of the Uniontown Poultry show. The fowl is a White Orpington and a beauty.

O. M. Jarrett of Scottdale won a first prize for the best pen of fowls, exhibiting Single Comb Buff Orpingtons.

WILL IS PROBATED.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 17.—The will of Mrs. Alice A. Boyd, who died at her home in Connellsville last October 30, was probated today in the office of Register of Wills Charles O. Schroyer. She left an estate valued at $750 to her son, Robert H. Boyd. Letters testamentary were issued to Robert H. Boyd.

EXCEPTIONS FILED TO ACCOUNTS MADE IN SOISSON ESTATE

Charge is Made That Executors Have Not Accounted for All Sums.

AUDIT TO BE MADE ON TUESDAY

Complainants Allege Errors in Inventory and Object to Distribution of Balance to Joseph Soisson's Widow Because Some Debts Are Unpaid.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 17.—Exceptions have been filed in the orphans court to the account filed in the estate of the late Joseph Soisson of Connellsville, which is to be audited on next Tuesday before Judge J. C. Work. The account was filed by Caroline Soisson, William F. Soisson and Vincent H. Soisson, executors of the estate, and shows a balance in the hands of the executors for distribution of $296,099.19. The value of the estate is $303,068.47.

The exceptions were filed by Attorney A. V. D. Watterson of Pittsburg, representing Emma C. Soisson, J. Whitney Soisson and Hilda A. Soisson. It is alleged that the executors have not accounted for all of the money which has or should have come into their hands from this estate. It is also alleged by the exceptants that interest which has accrued on the following mortgages has not been accounted for: Joseph Soisson Fire Brick Company, $70,000; W. J. Layburn heirs, $3,400; H. M. Kephart, $2,000; F. H. Fort, $2,400; J. F. Reynolds, $3,400; May Dick Kerr, $7,500; W. J. Hicks, $2,000; C. Minnis, $600, and Leon Soisson, $1,000.

It is charged that the executors in the account do not account for the interest on notes from the time the interest was paid until the death of Joseph Soisson, the notes being those of J. C. Lytle, $1,000; John Geisler, $325, and the Layburn heirs, $700.

Exception is taken to that portion of the account under the title "total charge in inventory," for the reason that the inventory shows errors, declare the exceptants, in the following items:

Bonds of the Sunshine Coal & Coke Company, $10,000, which amount seems to indicate that there are ten bonds of $1,000 each, when, as a matter of fact, there are 49 bonds of $1,000 each.

Forty shares of Connellsville Merchandise & Supply Company stock, $1,000, which indicates that there is a company or corporation of that name, while in fact the item refers to the South Connellsville Merchandise & Supply Company.

Ninety shares Tri-State Telephone stock, no value, for the reason that the said stock has value.

Bonds Bickford Fire Brick Company, $3,700, neither the number of the bonds or the par value thereof being shown.

Bonds of the Thompson Connellsville Coke Company, $16,000, neither the number of bonds, nor par value thereof being shown.

Bonds of the Connellsville Machine & Car Company, $5,000, neither the number of bonds or the par value thereof being shown.

Bonds of Connellsville Suburban Street Railway, $29,500, the bonds being in fact in the name of the South Connellsville Street Railway Company, and the number of bonds not being shown.

Exceptions are also being taken to the action of the executors in distributing the balance of the accounts to Caroline Soisson for the reason "that they are informed and believe that all the obligations of Joseph Soisson, deceased, have not been paid."

ENTIRELY TOO YOUNG.

Cop Says Prisoner Couldn't Get So Dirty in 40 Years.

A certain railroad officer picked up a prisoner on the coke ovens and brought him in to the city as a suspect. The man was white, but the accumulation of dust, dirt and soot had made him blacker than Uncle Tom. It was long since he had seen soap and water. Asked how old he was, the man answered "40."

"You're older than that," declared the officer. "No man could get all that dirt on him in 40 years."

MOTHERS' PENSIONS.

County Board Passes on Three Applications For Aid.

A business meeting of the Mothers Assistance Board of Fayette County was held last week in Uniontown. Three applications for aid, all from the upper end of the county, were received.

Following the meeting, which was devoted principally to business of a routine nature, the women made a tour of inspection. Mrs. J. F. Kerr, president of the board, and Mrs. W. P. Clark of town attended.

TRUSTEES MEET.

Hospital Board Transacts Routine Business; Bailey Attends.

Dr. W. J. Bailey, the newly appointed member of the board of trustees of the Cottage State Hospital, met with the board for the first time, at an adjourned meeting held Thursday afternoon at the hospital.

Dr. Bailey succeeds the late Dr. T. H. White and was appointed by the governor on the recommendation of the hospital trustees. The meeting was devoted to the transaction of business of a routine nature.

To Install Pastor.

At a meeting of the Westmoreland Presbytery held Tuesday at West Newton, arrangements were made to install Rev. Arthur J. Kenyon as pastor of the Ligonier Church Tuesday evening, January 11. Rev. William T. Lytle of Mount Pleasant will preach the sermon.

Advertise in The Weekly Courier.

FOR PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS AT GRADE CROSSINGS

The Purpose of a Campaign by Officials of the Railroads.

AUTOISTS DISREGARD DANGER

Thereby Becoming the Chief Offenders Against Rules and Measures Designed to Promote Safety at Crossings, Reckless at Uniontown

The railroads of the United States have undertaken a campaign for the prevention of accidents at grade crossings. The American Railway Association has delegated a committee of its members all railway officials to consider the entire question.

This committee will present recommendations after a thorough investigation for action to bring about a reduction of one of the most numerous classes of railway casualties and one which is rapidly increasing in spite of the many millions that have been expended by the railroads for the elimination of grade crossings.

The importance of the problem is indicated by the fact that during the last 10 years the Interstate Commerce Commission has reported a total of 9,479 persons killed and 21,917 injured by being struck or run over by cars or locomotives at highway crossings.

The records of crossing accidents show an increase fairly consistent with the development of railway traffic although the increase in the number of persons killed is less in proportion than the growth of the railway business but since 1909 there has been a steady increase unaffected by the falling off in traffic in 1914. This is doubtless largely due to the increase in the use of automobiles.

Naturally the chances for grade crossing accidents increase with the number of trains run and the railroads, by heavier trainloading have prevented the number of trains run from increasing in proportion to the traffic, thereby holding down the chances of grade crossing accidents. Nevertheless, many legislatures during the past year enacted laws requiring the railroad companies to run shorter and consequently more trains.

The permanent remedy for crossing accidents is the elevation or depression of the tracks. Public authorities are coming more and more to demand this form of remedy and railways generally have shown a disposition to apply this method of the separation of railway and highway grades but are deterred largely by the expense involved. It has been found that the average cost of eliminating grade crossings is about $50,000 each, a sum which during recent years of lean traffic on the railroads has loomed large when scheduling the items of proposed betterments.

Statistics collected by the railroads show that automobile drivers constitute the largest class of offenders against common caution and rules of the road relative to the risks assumed at grade crossings. One western road reports that out of 17,0?1 motorists approaching railroad crossings in a number of widely separated localities 69½ per cent looked neither to the right or left before crossing, ? per cent looked in one direction only, 28 per cent looked in both directions, ? per cent ran over the crossings at a reckless rate of speed while only 35 drivers of the whole number observed stopped before crossing. Similar observations taken a year later at the same places after the road had given a great deal of publicity to its efforts to reduce this kind of accidents and had appealed for the co-operation of the local authorities and automobile clubs showed a considerable improvement.

The Baltimore & Ohio had similar observations made at Uniontown on September 12 when out of 729 automobiles crossing the tracks at East Fayette street in 12 hours only 28 stopped to ascertain whether or not a train was approaching and 50? were not even slowed down. There were but 137 drivers who looked in both directions while 542 did not look at all before crossing.

Where grade crossings have not been eliminated many roads have placed large warning signs or signals at the approaches but even where protective devices are in service they depend for their efficiency largely on the attitude of the public using the highways. Enginemen are trained to be careful and are impressed with the importance of sounding whistle signals at crossings but many automobilists approach railroad tracks without any effort to ascertain whether it is safe to cross.

So regardless of the danger do auto drivers become in some sections that one railroad found it necessary to install some crossing gates made of telegraph poles because automobilists persisted in breaking through ordinary gates when set against the highway traffic on account of the approach of trains.

Monster Coal Cars

The Norfolk & Western railroad is building 1,000 all-steel coal cars in its shops at Roanoke, Va., which will have a rated capacity of 180,000 pounds or with the customary 10 per cent overload practically 100 net tons per car.

The B. & O. Into Kentucky

Maps of a proposed extension of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad from Hewlett, W. Va., into the properties of the Consolidation Coal Company in Letcher county, Ky., were filed this week.

No Bidders for W. & L. E. R. R.

No bidders appeared for the Wheeling & Lake Erie railroad which was advertised to be sold at auction at Cleveland, O., on Monday, under foreclosure of the general mortgage of 1905.

A CHANGE OF METHOD IN COAL CAR DISTRIBUTION

To be Urged by West Virginia Operators Who Think Other Regions Are Favored

The Car Supply Committee of the Central West Virginia Coal Operators Association has made a report of its investigation into the problem of car shortage. By this report it is asserted that since September 23 the Connellsville and Somerset districts have been getting about 77 per cent of their maximum allotment of cars while the Fairmont district has been getting only about 67 per cent. The maximum allotment of cars by the Baltimore & Ohio to the Connellsville district is 900 a day and to the Somerset district 600 a day as against the maximum allotment to the Fairmont district of 1,500 a day.

A conference is shortly to be held with the officials of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad with a view to bringing about a more satisfactory situation with respect to car supply. A plan is being considered which would provide that during the acute car shortage instead of distributing the cars pro rata day by day, a give 100 per cent of cars to the mines in the region until the supply is exhausted so that these mines could work 10 hours the following day to give 100 per cent of car supply to the mines which had no supply the day before leaving those supplied the day before idle. Under the present percentage distribution in the mines are practically in operation every day but the output is so limited that the cost of production is greatly increased.

Another suggestion is the placing of all shippers of sand gravel lime stone steel and other bulk freight upon the percentage basis which governs the distribution of cars to coal mines.

In explanation of the car shortage on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad Vice President A. W. Thompson stated Saturday that when it became necessary a few months ago to put the coal operators on a percentage basis it was found that 1,800 loaded cars per day were going from the Baltimore & Ohio to foreign roads in excess of the number of foreign cars being received by the Baltimore & Ohio. It was found that 9,000 cars in use on foreign roads were due the Baltimore & Ohio. Car chasers were started after these overdue cars and their activity has resulted in balancing up the car account somewhat more satisfactorily but much yet remains to be done in this particular.

THE CAR SHORTAGE

Statistics Show That It is Not as Bad as it Seems to Be.

With railroad embargoes increasing in effectiveness and scope the general public has gained the impression that every freight car is in use and that the railroads could use thousands of additional cars if they could only lay hands on them. A report just issued by the American Railway Association presents a different view.

According to this report there were 5,000 more idle cars on the railroad lines of the United States and Canada on December 1 than there were on November 1 also the car shortage reported on December 1 was smaller by about 5,000 cars than the shortage reported a month before. The total net surplus of idle cars on December 1 was 38,100 cars against 28,?68 on November 1.

The unused cars were well distributed but there were more in the Northwest and on the Pacific Coast than in any section. The reported cars came principally from Canada and from the ? sections of the United States.

SAFETY DEPARTMENT

W. J. Rainey Will Establish Systematic Welfare Work

The first of the year the W. J. Rainey interests will complete the organization of its safety department. Miss Elizabeth Rooks, at present on the nursing staff of the Uniontown Hospital will be put in charge of the welfare work under Dr. S. A. Baltz, head of the department. Miss Rooks' duties will include education of the employes of the company in sanitation, proper care of the home, the children and the food supplies and every other phase of prevention which may keep the people well and happy.

On Christmas morning Santa Claus will be at the various stores and will present the children with toys, nuts, candies and other Christmas dainties.

RECEIVERS NAMED

Harris-Smith Coal & Coke Company in Financial Difficulties

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 18.—Dr. ? ? Hess and S. A. Carson late yesterday were appointed receivers for the Harris-Smith Coal & Coke Company of Uniontown. The petition presented to the court asking for the appointment of receivers was made by the Browning Coke Company and Lloyd H. Smith for themselves and for all other stockholders and creditors of the Harris-Smith Coal & Coke Company, a corporation.

The secured indebtedness of the corporation amounts to $30,000 on a tract of 110 acres of land in Franklin township. There are unsecured debts of $21,500 and the assets with which to pay the unsecured creditors amount to only $3,988.

TAKES NEW PLACE

J. D. Madigan Is Named Superintendent at Newcomer Plant

J. D. Madigan, formerly superintendent of the Connellsville plant of the Pittsburg Brewing Company, has been appointed superintendent of the Newcomer coke plant of the Newcomer Coke Company. The company's plant of thirty ovens is in full operation.

P. J. Mullen, formerly fire boss at the Mount Braddock mine of W. J. Rainey will be mine foreman under Mr. Madigan.

High Cost of Demurrage

Under the demurrage rules now in force at the port of New York cars held after expiration of the free limit cost $3 for the first three days and $5 for each day thereafter. To hold a car a month will cost $132.

MINING INSTITUTE'S WINTER MEETING NOW IN SESSION

Papers and Topics of Interest to Engineers and and Operators.

COMPENSATION LAW DISCUSSED

Its Requirements, Prohibitions, Defects and Effects Considered In Relation to the Coal Mining Industry and Increasing Cost of Production.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 2?.—The winter meeting of the Coal Mining Institute of America will conclude its sessions at the Fort Pitt Hotel tomorrow. The gathering of men to the number of ?0 or more who are interested in the theoretical and practical problems of coal production began at 10 A. M. yesterday when the business of the meeting was transacted. The following officers were elected for 1916: President, Slate Mine Inspector Joseph Knapper of Philipsburg; vice presidents, W. J. Affelder, Pittsburg; ? ? Hunter, Morgantown, W. Va., and W. ? Lohl of Pittsburg; secretary and treasurer, William Seddon of Brownsville; executive board, ? ? Willard of Uniontown, ? S. Fowler of Indiana and C. H. Crocker of Blairsville.

The afternoon session was devoted to a discussion of questions relating to mining problems. S. A. Taylor, the Pittsburg mining engineer, introduced the subject ? ? ? machine ? developed for cutting and loading coal. W. A. Weldon ? of Pittsburg and a number of others gave the results of their experience and observations on machines of this type.

I. S. Jenks, a former Connellsville resident and now manager of the Light and Power Department of the West Penn Electric Company, gave an instructive and interesting talk on the purchase of electric power advisable for coal mining operations, a topic which proved to be of considerable interest to the institute.

The Institute dinner was served at 6:30 being followed by an address by J. W. Leech, a member of the Workmen's Compensation Board, who explained the workings of the law. The subject was further considered in a paper submitted by Ernest ? Smith of Pittsburg entitled The Bearing of the Workmen's Compensation Act on the Coal Mining Industry of Pennsylvania. This was neither a technical nor argumentative discussion of the subject but an exposition of the requirements and prohibitions of the act as applied to the mining industry with some observations on the effect and the ? ? of the law. ? ? Prof. ? B. Mellor of the University of Pittsburg explained the ? and scope of the mining extension work of that institution.

At this morning session W. H. Howarth of ? gave the ? an address on ? ? Methods of Mining in the Lower Connellsville Coke Region. It was followed by S. B. Solden of Columbus, O., who pointed out the advantages and economies to be derived from the use of storage batteries in mines.

Permissible Explosives was the theme of the principal discussion of the afternoon session. Their advantages will be covered by Joseph Williams, mine inspector of Altoona and their disadvantages presented by Joseph Knapper, mine inspector of Philipsburg. ? ? ? ? of ? ? ? ? cases and ? ? ? of the Bureau of Mines, Pittsburg, explained the operation of a New Method ? Detection.

At the concluding session tomorrow afternoon J. H. White, sanitary engineer of the Bureau of Mines, Pittsburg, will submit a paper dealing with Welfare Work in Its Relation to Workmen's Compensation. H. M. Wilson, director of the American Mine Safety Association of Pittsburg will consider the related subjects Workmen's Compensation and Mine Safety Will Determine the Cost of Coal Production.

Will Vote on 8-Hour Day

The demands of the railway brotherhoods for an eight hour day will be submitted to a referendum vote of the membership of the brotherhoods before the issues involved are placed before the railway officials.

Wheels Begin New Mine

Work has been commenced on the proposed new mine to be opened on the Gaut farm in the Yukon district by the Whyel Coal & Coke Company. A 200 acre tract recently purchased will be developed.

PIT PROPS HIGHER

Prices Advance as Activity at the Mines Increase

The increased demand for coal and coke and consequently greater activity at the mines has caused the mine timber trade to be very much stimulated. There is larger need for pit props and prices have advanced as inquiries and orders have become more frequent.

Standard split props which were selling somewhat slowly at 13 to 14 cents some months ago now bring 13 to 14 cents. Select rounds command higher prices, gauged somewhat by the urgency of the buyer's need. A choice lot of 5 inch rounds sold recently at 20 cents being taken by an operator who found his stock depleted at a time when prompt deliveries on other orders could not be made.

The producers of props report scarcity in both labor and car supply. During the slack period the mines ordered props so sparingly and allotted consignments so closely that the shippers made no effort to secure the business or to accumulate stocks against a better market. Now that higher prices rule more attention is being given to this branch of the timber business. Wages for woodsmen and mill hands have advanced somewhat in proportion with the advance in prices of the products they prepare for the market.

S. H. Sipe & Company of Connellsville who control a large tract between ? and Oakland, Md., have placed a force at work cutting props. These are hauled over the Accident-Oakland state road to the Baltimore & Ohio railroad at Oakland. It is planned to shortly supplant the teams now employed in this work by a motor driven truck which will be capable of making three trips a day instead of one made by the teams.

FACING COAL FAMINE

Railroad Embargoes Creating Serious Conditions In New England

New England is facing a worse coal famine than any that existed since the Civil War as a direct result of the car shortage situation. Buyers are rushing to the markets in great numbers frantic in their efforts to get coal. What is more important to them is to get more coal for a portion of Pittsburgh ? ? ? less of quality brought $? a ton in ? ? ? ? ? ? ? coal that brought two months ago ? $?. ? ? ? ? industrial plants are calling for fuel regardless of quality or price.

It is only in the last few days that the New England situation became acute. The railroad embargoes ? ? ? ? ? ? ? New England, New York and ? ? communities. The ? government and ? ? ? ? the ? ? ? The trunk lines ? ? ? ? ? ? ? with freight ? a physical impossibility ? ? ? through to the shipping point.

The Philadelphia & Reading ? ? ? Shippen ? ? ? This is the ? at which deliveries ? ? the mines from the Western Maryland and West Virginia ? ? shipment to tidewater. This ? has been withdrawn ? ? ? supplant ? ? ? to accept any shipments at this point.

Increase of P. R. R. Freight

The ? ? ? ? ? movement ? Pennsylvania railroad ? ? ? representative ? ? ? ? during the first fourteen days of December totalled ? ? ? an increase of ? ? ? ? ? corresponding period of 1914. The daily average ? ? ? ? ? ? ? cars in excess of 5,110 cars.

Further Freight Rate Boost.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has just announced a decision providing for an increase in freight rates on livestock and dressed meats from Chicago and points west of Pittsburg and Buffalo to New York, Philadelphia and the territory east of Buffalo and Pittsburg.

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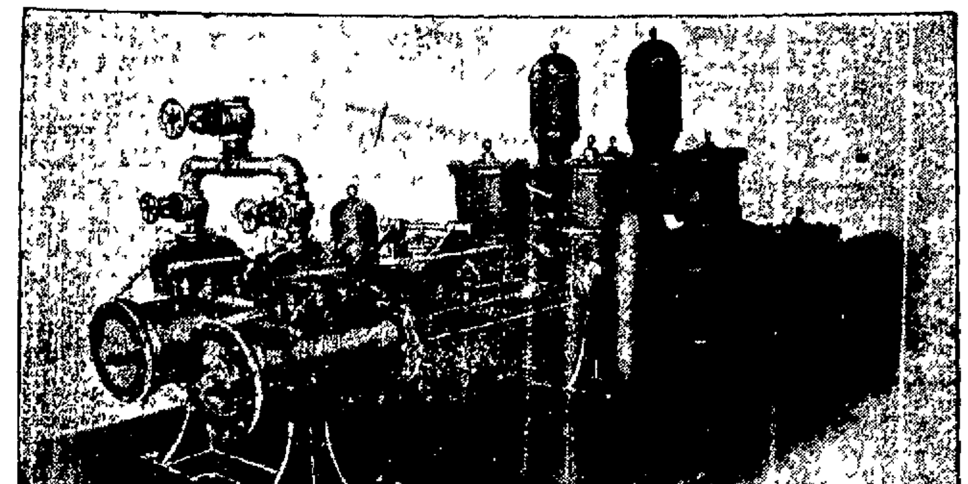

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Austin Coal & Coke Co. Plants ? ?	[illegible]	H. C. Frick Coke Co. ? Shoaf and Bitner	1,000
Colonial Coke Company Smock	[illegible]	Struthers Coal & Coke Co., Fairbank Works	100

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